



BELLE PLAINE NEWS & EVENTS

Spring 2018

Youth corps to help Gibson Island

By Christopher Sampson

At the heart of the Cloverleaf Lakes, a corps of youth volunteers is preparing for a productive summer of island adventure, right in their own backyard.

The students will be the first participants in the newly created Gibson Island Youth Stewardship and Volunteer Program.

As of mid-April, seven local teen-agers had signed on for duty.

Joy Krubsack, who heads the Town of Belle Plaine's citizen stewardship of the Gibson Island property, says the program will offer valuable environmental education opportunities for young people.

It will also benefit the island. Participants will bring the energy of youth – and much-needed muscle power – to management and maintenance of the 25-acre natural area.

"It's a fantastic property, a beautiful northwoods forest," Krubsack says, "but some people might be surprised at all that goes into keeping a natural area 'natural' and clean and free of invasive species. Getting help from these students is going to make a big difference."

Student volunteers can choose to assist with trail maintenance, invasive-species control or shoreline-erosion prevention, for example. Participation can also be as simple as periodic "trash patrols" for the occasional stray pop cans or litter.

Open to students 8th grade through high school, participation would make students eligible for volunteer-hour credits at their schools, if applicable.

Gibson Island – not truly an "island" since a narrow isthmus is a connecting trail to the north shore — was acquired by the town in 2006. The purchase price of just over \$1 million was covered by a combination of private donations, the sale of surplus

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Looks like nobody's going boating anytime soon. April's giant snowstorm totaled 30 inches in Belle Plaine and resulted in giant drifts and snowbanks. For more photos, turn to page 5.

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Summer slate starts with CLPA annual meeting

It's not looking much like spring yet, let alone summer. But a busy summer schedule awaits, including the Kiddie Parade, golf outing and a revival of the Cloverleaf Lakes Triathlon.

First up will be the annual meeting of the Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association on Saturday, May 26, starting at 10 a.m. at the Round Lake Park picnic shelter. All members are welcome to attend the free event.

The Kiddie Parade starts at 10 a.m. on Satur-

day, June 30, at the boat launch on Highway Y. The Pontoon Parade has been cancelled due to lack of participation.

The Jim Aumann Memorial Golf Outing is slated for Saturday, July 21, at the Riverside Clintonville Golf Course. Events start at noon and include lunch and dinner, plus prizes and raffles.

The triathlon, which was not held in 2017, will conclude the summer season on Saturday, Sept. 1, at the Rustic Resort grounds.

Compost site opening amid some changes

By Alvin Bartz

The slow start of spring and big storm will put everything back a little this year. We have not scheduled road work yet as the frost is still coming out of the roads. We will need to inspect the town roads and schedule work in the next few weeks.

We will be opening the compost site on Range Line Road on Saturday, April 28, for the summer season. It is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hopefully the snow will be gone and the ground will dry off. This will also give compost site manager **Marie Rouse** a chance to heal as she injured her knee walking their dog recently.

The town has received approval for burning wood at the compost site and will be mailing in the DNR license fee this month.

Wood and brush should be placed in the berm area. A compost pile will be moved to the area where the large brush pile has been. This will give us move room to turn the compost the way the DNR wants.

We planned to take weight limits off the town roads in mid April. I've checked with Shawano County and the highway department planned to change the limits at the same time.

Our firefighters have mentioned there are a number of driveways in our town that are not accessible to emergency equipment.

Belle Plaine chairman's message

Fire trucks are much larger than they used to be and many times they are called out at night when it is more difficult to see. Alignments of the driveway's horizontal and vertical clearance needs to be provided.

Here's a reminder that cutting of oak trees should be wrapped up until fall. That will slow down the spread of oak wilt in wooded areas.

Boat monitor job open

The Town of Belle Plaine is seeking a part-time boat monitor for the Cloverleaf Lakes launch site on Highway Y. The job consists of checking boats for invasive weeds and providing information to boaters. Applicants must be willing to work day-time weekends and holidays during the summer as part of a 30-hour work week. Pay is \$10 per hour. Applicants must be at least 16 years old.

Contact **Joe Mass** of the lake association board at (715) 823-3758 before May 14.

Belle Plaine town notebook

Board of Review will meet to consider property assessments on Wednesday, May 16, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Belle Plaine Community Center. The Open Book date was Sunday, April 22, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Property owners can bring evidence that their parcels are not properly assessed.

* The town's compost site will be open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. through the summer, starting on April 28. The site is on Range Line Road. Take Highway 22 to River Bend Road to Range Line. The site is on the east side of the road.

* The Shawano Area Fire Department is seeking volunteer firefighters for its Shawano, Belle Plaine and Wescott stations. Stop at Auto Prep, 220 North Main St., next to the Shawano fire station, and see Lt. **Mark Retzlaff** for an application.

* Summer hours for the Collection and Recycling Center on Cloverleaf Lake Road are on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

People with large items such as furniture, TVs or building materials are encouraged to take the items to the Shawano City Landfill. There is a small fee. Hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays. The Belle Plaine Recycling Center does not accept those items.

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:

4 to 6 p.m. Monday; 8:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday or by appointment

Regular Town Board meetings:

Second Monday of each month, 7 p.m.

Committees:

Planning, Zoning, Gibson Island Stewardship

Population estimate: 1,855

Lots of news at CLPA annual meeting May 26

After a quiet winter until the April surprise storm, Cloverleaf Lakes will become a bustling place in the spring and summer months.

Leading off the summer schedule will be the annual meeting of the Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association. It gets underway at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 26, at the Round Lake Park picnic shelter. All members and prospective members are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served.

We'll have news and updates on many projects including:

- * The town has received a DNR grant for more than \$48,500 over the next three years for aquatic invasive species projects. This year, chemical treatment is planned to kill the hybrid milfoil that is choking Round Lake. There will probably be some Diver-Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) to hand-pull milfoil on Grass and Pine Lakes that were chemically treated in 2016.

- * **Jason Breeggemann**, DNR fish biologist, plans to give details of the 2018 fisheries survey on Cloverleaf Lakes. He planned to do netting and count fish after the ice goes out.

- * **Molly Joosten** will talk about her plan to sell lake-branded apparel with proceeds to benefit the CLPA (see page 4).

- * **Bob Gross** will invite golfers to tee off in the Jim Aumann Memorial Golf Outing on July 21 at the Clintonville Riverside Golf Course.

- * Two board members will be elected. The terms of **Carol Wegner** and **Dennis Thornton** are expiring and they do not plan to run for another term.

CLPA president's message

In other news, two employees hired by WAMSCO will benefit Cloverleaf Lakes. WAMSCO stands for Waterways Association of Menominee and Shawano Counties and includes lake associations in the two counties. The WAMSCO annual meeting will be Saturday, April 28, at the Belle Plaine Community Center.

The association received two three-year DNR grants for these positions. **Emily Henrigillis** will be Regional Watershed Restoration Coordinator - Shawano and Menominee County and **Brady Stockwell** will be AIS Coordinator - Shawano and Menominee County.

The regional watershed coordinator will work on shoreline restoration, outreach and communications, agricultural restoration projects and water quality monitoring.

The AIS coordinator will train Clean Boats Clean Waters boat monitors, coordinate the Drain Campaign and Landing Blitz (two educational campaigns for boaters), and carry out a strategic plan for invasive species.

Henrigillis graduated from UW-Whitewater and got a master's in environmental science at UW-Green Bay. She has worked as a field technician for Onterra, our AIS consultant.

Stockwell graduated from Ripon College with a major in biology. He has worked on the Green Lake Association's conservation projects.

Gibson Island youth corps

Continued from page 1

town property on the Lakes, and a federal grant administered by the Department of Natural Resources.

A land management agreement between Belle Plaine and the DNR specifies that impacts of human use should be minimized, creating a wildlife and nature reserve. The parcel boasts extensive undeveloped shoreline on Grass and Pine lakes, a rarity on the otherwise highly developed chain.

Students will receive training in identification and removal of invasive species by an adult mentor. Following the training, they may work independently or as part of larger group work days.

Species that are currently the subject of control efforts include common buckthorn, garlic mustard, dame's rocket, Japanese and giant knotweed, reed canary grass, great mullein, oriental bittersweet and black locust.

Those who volunteer 10 hours or more will receive a certificate of appreciation, which recipients could note on resumes or college applications.

Krubsack says the idea for the youth corps surfaced last summer when she and her husband ran into eight-grade brothers **Josh** and **Jesse Wilson** on the island's outer-loop trail. The four

teamed up to reposition some branches that had partially blocked the path, and chatted a little as they made quick work of the task. The teens told Krubsack they thought others might jump at the chance to volunteer on Gibson Island.

An enthusiastic "yes" arrived shortly afterward from the boys' sister, **Jasmine**, and the Wilson triplets became Krubsack's first signups. Parents **John and Kristi Wilson** met with Krubsack and helped draft a written agreement with rules and expectations for the program. (Youth volunteers won't use chain saws or axes, for example, and while they're encouraged to suggest projects they should always clear activities first with the program's adult supervisors.)

Krubsack makes a point of meeting with parents and guardians before each youth participant commits to the program. A retired Clintonville Middle School science teacher, she believes strongly that volunteerism and environmental awareness are good for the soul.

"We need to get students involved in their communities," she says. "A lot of work went in to protecting the Gibson Island property, a lot of people contributed, but now it's up to us to get that next generation involved, to protect it forever. They are our future."

For information on participation, contact Krubsack at jkrubsack@hotmail.com or (715) 823-6480.

Area kids learn about fishing (ice and water)

By Donna Ford

The Belle Plaine Sportsman's Club had an awesome turnout for the Second Annual Kid's Ice Fishing event in February.

We again had more than 50 kids who were able to pair up with mentors to learn how to ice fish. The Club had multiple ice fishing shanties available for the event, and hay-bale lined trailers to transport the kids out to the pre-drilled holes and shanties.

Our mentors taught the kids how to drill holes, use tip ups and "jig" for fish. The best memories of the event, according to the "kids" were the free food (chili and hotdogs) and the prizes! Every child left with a prize – which included tip ups, jigging poles and summer fishing rods. The top prizes were new bicycles, awarded to both a boy and a girl registrant. Fun was had by all.

The BPSC assisted the DNR with building a kiosk for the landing on Highway CCC boat landing. The kiosk displays regulations and news for those who use the boat landing. The DNR supplied the materials and the BPSC members built the kiosk.

The Club continues to conduct at least three Adopt-A-Highway clean up events throughout the spring/summer months. Pick-ups are held on Saturday mornings starting at 10 a.m. We average picking up approximately 15 to 20 bags of garbage per year. Watch our Facebook page for event dates.

Embarrass Fun Daze: The BPSC will continue to support the Embarrass Volunteer Fire Department Fun Daze Event on July 28. Come and support the cause.

Upcoming exciting event: The BPSC will be hosting a Family Trout Fish Day on Saturday, June 9, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We will have a pond stocked with over 250 trout, located at N11695 Heidke Road, which is on Highway C, three miles east of Embarrass. This is our first of an annual event...rain or shine. Registration on the day of the event will be required. Kids' prizes will be given out, and refreshments will be available. Participants should bring their own poles and bait. Call (715) 250-4858 (**Jay Ford**) for more information. Watch for road signs to guide you to the event.

Don't forget about our Annual Horseshoe Tournament held in late summer. Watch our Facebook page for event dates.

Like us on Facebook: [belleplainesportsmansclub](#)



Young ice anglers pick up some of the prizes they won at the Kid's Ice Fishing event sponsored by the Belle Plaine Sportsman's Club.



A wagonload of young ice anglers head for fishing holes on Cloverleaf Lakes in February.

Cloverleaf Lakes shirts coming

Longtime Cloverleaf Lakes resident **Molly Joosten** is planning to sell a variety of shirts, hooded sweatshirts and possibly caps branded for the lakes.

Some of the shirts will have the Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association logo. Others will have Lake Bum Cloverleaf Lakes across the front.

The CLPA board approved use of the logo and will receive a small donation from each item sold.

Molly plans to show some samples and circulate a sign-up

sheet at the CLPA's annual meeting on Saturday, May 26, starting at 10 a.m. at the Round Lake Park picnic shelter.

For details, contact Molly Joosten at Mollyjoosten@gmail.com or on Facebook.

Check for lake/town news at
www.CloverleafLakes.com and
www.BellePlaineWI.com

Springtime? Snowstorm Evelyn drops 30 inches here



Snow drifts surround a pontoon boat on Rustic Drive that won't be seeing the water any time soon. Warmer temperatures are melting the huge snow banks after the 30-inch snow storm.

One of the newspaper headlines read: April Showers Bring Snowplowers.

That summed up a crazy record-breaking mid-April storm that brought an estimated 30 inches of snow to cover Belle Plaine and much of Wisconsin. The amount of snow was difficult to measure because of drifting caused by winds gusting to 50 miles per hour at times.

The storm arrived on April 13, (yes, lucky Friday the 13th) with rain, sleet, hail, lightning and then heavy snow. It continued all day Saturday and Sunday, into Monday morning. Digging out and clean-up took days.



Above, the Belle Plaine Community Center sign sticks out from snow banks after the 30-inch April storm. Below, the Joostens' mailbox on Grass Lake Road has a typical snow pile.



Grass Lake is barely visible looking out over a six-foot snow drift on a deck during the height of the storm.



Belle Plaine hair stylist enjoys a 50-year career

By Joan Sousek

For **Karen Johnson**, the success of her home-based beauty business, Karen's Riverview Salon, at N4725 Willow Lane, Shawano, in the Town of Belle Plaine, has come from sticking to the basics, enjoying the work and caring for the people she serves.

The Shawano native started doing hair about age 14, but a hairstyling career was not her first choice.

As a Shawano High senior nearing graduation, she wanted to become a nurse, but was told her science grades were too low; her second choice, joining the military, was nixed by her father.

Her mother suggested cosmetology school, so she applied to the Wisconsin College of Cosmetology in Green Bay and started classes in November 1966, launching a 50-year career as a stylist.

She also took classes – including psychology — at Appleton's technical college (then the vocational school). "I enjoyed that," Karen says. "I felt it was good to have psychology for dealing with people. It does help you."

After working for several salons, she managed the Spurgeon's salon in Shawano for 9½ years.

In 1973, Karen married **Bob Johnson**. In 1978, they built a home on the Wolf River, incorporating a one-chair beauty shop on the lower level with access via large cement stairs adjacent to the house.

After about 20 years, the cement stairs had to be replaced and while they did the work themselves over several years, Karen rented a chair at **Jackie Popp's** salon on South Main where she worked with **Cindy Beyer**. Then, Karen added a chair at her shop for Cindy who still rents there, working mainly on Saturdays.

They offer basic services including cuts, perms and colors. Also trained to do facials, pedicures and manicures, Karen says she got too busy for much of that, and her smaller, home-based salon made adding services, like nails, too challenging.

"Your basics are the most important. What you do with that is unlimited and up to your imagination and creativity," she says.

She and Cindy attend continuing education classes, usually in Green Bay, and keep up on trends by reading magazines.

"There's always that little change in every generation," Karen says.

Color is still very big, including party colors, which many people put in themselves. But for better, more natural colors, most people go to a salon, she explains.

Their clients are mainly from Shawano and the surrounding area, and most have been coming a long time.

"My oldest patron is 101," Karen says. "I have been doing her hair since 1966."

She will make home visits for long-term customers who can't easily get out, as she does for that 101-year-old who uses a walker and can't handle the stairs. For about 25 years, she did



Karen Johnson is ready for customers at Karen's Riverview Salon in Belle Plaine. The business is open Monday through Saturday by appointment. Phone (715) 526-2745.

styling at Paiser's Oakhaven assisted living home in Shawano.

The business used to be about 50/50, men/women; now it's somewhat fewer men. Children also are welcome, but Johnson says, her regular clients have aged, so their kids have grown up and often moved away.

She also does styling for proms and weddings less frequently.

"That whole thing has changed so much," Karen says. "The younger people often stick with their regular haircuts and do their own colors. They don't get into the hairstyles like they used to."

In recent years, she's cut her hours, rarely working Saturdays for several reasons, including orders from her doctor to scale back after knee surgery.

"I was putting in 80 hours a week ... Most of the years here, I would work from 5 a.m. until 8 p.m. Now, I basically, start at 6 or 7 a.m. and I try to get out by 5 or 5:30 p.m.," she says.

Her husband's health also led to surgery, so she has picked up more of the yard work, and she does bookwork for his business, Johnson's Service of Shawano, where her son **Stewart** also works. Their son **Wade** died in a car accident in 1997.

When Karen is not styling, she's often in the yard tending flower beds and landscaping.

"It's a beautiful setting, but it's a challenge," she says.

They are again working on the stairs to the salon, but as long as they can manage the property and are healthy enough, Karen hopes to keep the business open.

"I'm staying with it because I like doing it and I enjoy people," she says.



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 2018 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 2018. 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

Dennis Thornton, president
(715) 823-9151
thorngb@frontiernet.net

Joe Mass, vice president
(715) 823-3758
jandsmass@gmail.com

Carol Wegner, secretary
(715) 823-6270
Dolphins27@charter.net

Jessica Meier, treasurer
Jessicameier
@UWalumni.com

Dave Rosenfeldt
(715) 823-6604

Christopher Sampson
csampson@new.rr.com

Dick Thurow
(414) 430-9067

CLPA members, donors

The following made donations to the CLPA or paid for 2018 memberships as of April 15. Members and donors who were listed in the previous newsletters are not included here.

\$500

David Peterson in memory of Earl Peterson

\$300

Karen E. Teutenberg

\$250

Belle Plaine Sportsman's Club

Joe and Bridget Mayek

\$100

Rande and Patsy Eggert

Roger and Lucille Hietpas

Tom and Bev Miller

Mark and Kim Raymond

Bob and Judy Tomczyk

Jon and Leanne Zimdars

\$75

Dennis Johnson

Herbert C. Puetzer

Lee and Mary Wetzel

\$50

Jim and Karen Habeck

Greg and Karen Husman

James and Beth Karlson

Matteson Creek Wildlife Area

Joyce Tagliapietra

Claude and Jessica Wait

Other

Dennis and Joy Krubsack

Margaret A. LaMalfa

Members \$25

Don and Diane Brandl

Sondra Dille

Kenneth and Stephanie Dunlavy

Rande and Patsy Eggert

Bruce and Sharon Greasby

Vernon and Lavonne Gross

Jim and Karen Habeck

Roger and Lucille Hietpas

Raymond Hornig

Greg and Karen Husman

Dennis Johnson

John and Jennie Johnson

Ray and Penni Johnson

Russ and KeryKafka

James and Beth Karlson

John and Linda Kraemer

Bob and Maryann Krause

David H. Krubsack

Dennis and Joy Krubsack

Kristi Krueger and Ellen Walbrun

Margaret A. LaMalfa

Craig and Sara Lillge

Nick and Leeann Little

Mark Marotz and Rainee Bredda

Matteson Creek Wildlife Area

Joe and Bridget Mayek

Tom and Bev Miller

Audrey Nolan

Sally Norder

Cara Pahl

Mike and Beth Petruzates

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Herbert C. Puetzer

Mark and Kim Raymond

Arlene Schabo

Geraldine Schertz

Veryl and Virgie Sievert

Joyce Tagliapietra

Bob and Judy Tomczyk

Claude and Jessica Wait

Robert and Dorothy Warren

Arlyn and Sharon Wepner

Lee and Mary Wetzel

Jon and Leanne Zimdars

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

Town's main expenses: Roads, garbage

The Town of Belle Plaine's annual financial report, reviewed at the town annual meeting on April 17, shows your tax dollars at work.

Most of the property taxes collected by the town don't go to town government. Clintonville and Shawano School Districts get the largest share of the more than \$2 million total.

Total income: \$953,594

The town's tax levy in 2017 was **\$412,371**.

Other major revenues:

DNR grants \$78,849
Hall and pavilion rentals \$1,705
Licenses and permits \$5,506
Boat launch fees \$4,237
Mobile home tax \$7,309
Donations \$3,510
American Transmission (power lines) \$88,965
Fire aid \$7,434
State recycling grant \$7,727
State shared revenue \$142,416
State transportation aid \$145,662
Total expenses: \$752,248
Major expenses:
Compost site \$9,903

Parks and recreation \$1,557
Recycling center \$5,341
Trash/recycling collection \$112,413
Shawano Landfill \$31,402
Highway maintenance \$319,630
Maintenance (employees) \$13,280
Trucks, machinery \$10,191
Ambulance \$25,042
First responders \$5,538
Shawano Rural Fire Dept. \$35,735
Building inspection \$3,133
Town Board wages, towns assn. dues \$23,431
Town clerk wages, supplies \$17,834
Treasurer and assessor \$18,184
Insurance \$9,853
Election workers \$2,804
Newsletters, newspaper notices \$4,329
Town hall heat, phone, upkeep \$7,642
Boat launch monitor \$4,805
Culvert, walkway project \$17,897
Shawano Country Tourism (room taxes) \$17,100
Income forwarded to 2018: \$201,345

Belle Plaine calendar

May 14: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center
May 14: Town Board, 7 p.m., Community Center
May 26: CLPA annual meeting, 10 a.m., Round Lake Park picnic shelter
June 11: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center
June 11: Town Board, 7 p.m., Community Center
June 30: Kiddie Parade, 10 a.m., Grass Lake boat launch area
July 9: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center
July 9: Town Board, 7 p.m., Community Center
July 21: Aumann Memorial Golf Outing, noon, Clintonville Riverside Golf Course