



# shorelines

Published By The Balsam Lake Homeowners' Association

A volunteer, nonprofit organization serving the lake community since 1974.



**JUNE 2018**

Avg. Temp.....65°  
Avg. High.....76°

Avg. Low.....52°  
Avg. Rain.....3.5"

For Current Weather:  
[www.balsamlake.com](http://www.balsamlake.com)

## **BALSAM LAKE WATER SKI SHOW TEAM TO PERFORM SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 2018**

The Balsam Lake Water Ski Show Team is scheduled to perform their annual Balsam Lake Invitational Ski Show on Saturday, June 30, at 7 pm. The show is free and fun for all ages. Spectators are encouraged to bring a chair or blanket



to sit along the shore in front of Sunnyside Marina. If you choose to come by boat, please respect the performance area and stay outside of the marked perimeter. You won't want to miss this performance of jumps, stunts, human pyramids, barefoot skiing and more. The Balsam Lake Water Ski Show Team is supported by member dues, corporate sponsorship and donations from spectators at their shows. They pass a container for donations at intermission. If you enjoy the show, please bring a few dollars to help this talented group continue to grow and make a positive impact on our lake community.

The Balsam Lake Water Ski Show Team is a volunteer tax exempt 501(c)3 organization tracing its roots back to 1960. Team members participate in all aspects of the show, from skiing to boat driving, announcing and helping out behind the scenes. They are dedicated to providing instruction in the sport of water skiing through a positive learning environment. Their team includes members of all ages developing their show ski talents. The Balsam Lake Water Ski Show Team

welcomes new members and regarding experience requirements, they only ask that new members be comfortable in the water and have a desire to learn various skills involved in show skiing. For more information visit their website at [www.blwsst.com](http://www.blwsst.com).

## **A REMINDER - BALSAM LAKE FARMERS MARKET OPENING FOR 2018**

Farmers Market opens May 25 and goes through October 12 - 3 - 5 p.m. on Friday afternoons.

Not much besides rhubarb is growing out of the ground yet but our first day has some treats! This is a great chance for everybody to sell and surprise us with all your winter creations!

Esther Nelson will be there with her local honey and maple syrup, different varieties of mushrooms from the forest and her homemade jams and jellies.

Mary Hannahan will be there again this year with her Fire-starters.

Lucas West will be there with his "green thumb," Vegetable and Flower Seedlings and always surprises.

Mary Chartrand will be there with Cinnamon Rolls and Coffee Cake made by the ladies from "Our Lady of the Lake" Catholic Church. Plus she sells her own hand woven Rag Rugs.

Judy Paulson from Endeavors will have her garden-fresh tomatoes hydroponically grown in their greenhouse in Milltown.

Luis and Jennifer from the new KJ's Cafe will have baked goods to sell to F.M. Customers.

And Helen Yourchuck always has her fresh eggs. Ummm good!

As usual, the sale will be in parking lot of "Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church." Single day vender fee is \$5 and seasonal vender fee is \$20. Come one day or every Friday! Questions call Esther Nelson - This is a great chance for everybody to sell and surprise us with all your winter creations! Join us as buyers or sellers! 715-268-8223.

## SAVE THE DATE!

### Balsam Lake Farmers Market

Starting Friday, May 25, 3 to 5:30 p.m. and on every Friday until Friday, October 12, 2018

### Boaters Safety Course

Friday, May 25, from 6 to 9 p.m.  
Saturday, May 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
At the Village Hall

### BLHA Members Welcome to Summer Party

Saturday, June 2, 3 to 5 p.m.  
At the Indianhead Supper Club

### Balsam Lake Invitational Ski Show

Saturday, June 30, 7 p.m. - Bring a chair or blanket to sit in front of Sunnyside Marina. There will be a freewill donation collected during intermission. If you enjoy the show, please bring a few dollars along to donate to this great group.

### Freedom Fest Fireworks 2018

Friday, July 6, at Dusk

### Balsam Lake Invitational Ski Show

Saturday, July 14, 3 p.m.  
Waterside Bar & Grill  
Lake Wapogasset, Amery, WI

### Balsam Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District Annual Meeting

Saturday, July 21, 2019, 9 a.m.

### Balsam Lake Homeowners' Association Annual Meeting

Saturday, August 11, 2018, Paradise Landing

### Balsam Lake Invitational Ski Show

Saturday, August 18  
Along Hwy. 46 - viewing by boat only

### Balsam Lake Invitational Ski Show

Saturday, September 1, 6 p.m. - Bring a chair or blanket to sit in front of Sunnyside Marina.

## Balsam Lake Post Office

308 Pearl Street • Balsam Lake, WI 54810

### HOURS:

Monday.....8:45 - 11:30 a.m., 12:30 - 4 p.m.  
Tuesday.....8:45 - 11:30 a.m., 12:30 - 4 p.m.  
Wednesday.....8:45 - 11:30 a.m., 12:30 - 4 p.m.  
Thursday.....8:45 - 11:30 a.m., 12:30 - 4 p.m.  
Friday.....8:45 - 11:30 a.m., 12:30 - 4 p.m.  
Saturday.....8:30 - 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday.....Closed



## Pioneer Bread Pudding

(via Johnny Cottage Restaurant in Door County,  
via Bev Bauer)

2 cups day-old bread cubes, crust removed	<u>Lemon sauce:</u> 1 cup sugar
1/4 cup sugar	1/8 tsp. salt
2 eggs	1 tbsp. grated lemon peel
2 cups milk	2 tbsp. lemon juice
3 tbsp. butter	2 tbsp. cornstarch
1/2 tsp. vanilla	2 cups water
Dash salt	1/4 cup butter

1. Place bread cubes in buttered 1-quart baking dish.
2. Mix and heat milk, sugar and butter in sauce pan just enough to dissolve sugar and melt butter.
3. Beat eggs slightly adding salt. Stir into warm milk. Add vanilla. Pour over bread.
4. Set dish in pan of hot water. Bake at 350° for 1 hour or until knife comes out clean. Serve hot or cold with cream or lemon sauce or both.
5. Sauce: Combine sugar, cornstarch and salt. Stir in water and lemon peel. Boil 1 minute. Remove from heat and stir in butter and lemon.

Bev asked me to point out that this recipe doesn't require any special ingredients, simple for something quick to serve with a beverage!

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## shorelines

Published and distributed three times a year (June, July, August) to homes adjacent to Balsam Lake, Wisconsin by the Balsam Lake Homeowners' Association, a private, nonprofit volunteer organization supported by membership dues, contributions, and advertising subsidies.

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**2018 June article contributors:** Grant Robinson, Mary Skarat, Thomas Thompson & Dave Turbenon. Algae article forwarded to us by Don Southworth & Marilyn Cantisano.

**Layout:** Gayle Olson. **Editor:** Debbie Irestone.

# LEE'S LAND ON THE NORTH SHORE OF BALSAM LAKE

By Mary Skaret

**Jack Lee's grandfather**, Helmer and his wife, Goldie were in their mid-forties when they built their cabin in 1926. It was built from trees cut down from his lot and the cabin 'stood' on existing tree stumps. There have been many facelifts since that time but it still has the same shell. Jack's brother, Albert had bought (for back taxes) almost the whole shore on the north side of the Big Narrows between East Balsam and the Main Lake.

**Richard McClain** (Richard McClain was a contributor to a Matriarchs and Patriarchs stories last year) had shown me the "Lee" cabin in 1996 and told me where Leeland name came from. He said, "That was the only cabin from Leeland Point at the narrows down to the stumps. The cabin was just 2' by 4's and drop siding. It was all maple trees over there and is where Dixie Lodge (their resort across the lake) tapped trees for their maple syrup. Do you remember rowing over there?" Dick and his wife of 74 years had been sweethearts when they worked for Dixie Lodge as 18 year olds – they were in their 90s when they took me on the boat ride to point out this cabin in 1996.



The old cabin on Lee's land.

**Jack was born in 1929** and started coming with his family to Helmer and Goldie's cabin when he was 4 years old. They lived in south Minneapolis, his father worked at 3M and his mother at the V.A. Hospital. He has a sister who lives in Florida now and a brother that lives in Eau Claire. "In the summer, we came up most weekends and often had flat tires on the way. We almost had to 'bush-whack' our way in. "By the time Jack was a teenager, the cabin owners had worn a road into the land but it was only dirt. "I brought friends up there but my grandma made sure the girls stayed in a cabin a long way down the shore from the boys. We loved the road – it was like a roller coaster." Gisela, Jack's wife of 60 years added, "When I was pregnant with our son, we had to have a coffee can in case I got sick on that road!" They bought their grandparents cabin in 1959 for \$4,200. "We paid it off with \$50 per month, lots of money at that time. It took us seven years to pay it off."

**Jack remembers Dixie Lodge** across the lake and how Dixie Lodge had a big iron triangle hanging on the shore that they rang at dinnertime to bring the fisherman in from the lake. "We just had a wooden rowboat that we had to paint every year. We fished and fished and fished! But we got around too. We had a big weed cutter that we would throw out in the lake and pull it in. We all raked a lot of weeds."



Lee Family Gathering with Jack in the center sitting down.

**Gisela, Jack's wife**, moved to Minneapolis in 1957 from Germany. She and Jack had met in Germany where he was in the service during the Korean War. She stayed in Germany for 18 months after he left but moved to join Jack in 1957 with 5 deutschmarks in her pocket which was equal to \$1.25 at that time. They married and had a son in 1958 and a daughter in 1960. "As a young family, we loved the lake. The children had good friends there." Jack worked for 3M like his dad and Gisela opened an interior decorating business in Lake Elmo after the kids were in college. They now have six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**Gisela remembers coming to the lake** when she first came to Minneapolis. She said, "There was no indoor plumbing at the lake. We had to heat water on the stove to bathe the babies. There was television, but we all played a lot of cards and had some great family gatherings with the whole extended family. Jack's aunt played the piano and we all would gather in their cabin for big sing-alongs. In 1968, my parents (56 and 64 years old at that time) immigrated from Germany to join the Lees. We built what we call the "boathouse" for them with the room on top and it had indoor plumbing." Gisela's parents eventually bought Jack's great-aunt's cabin next door to theirs.

**The cabins at Dixie Lodge** had no indoor plumbing and no kitchens either, one of the reasons that a lot of resorts in those day had an "American Plan" (meals served in a big communal dining room). Jack and Gisela knew that Dixie Lodge served dinners to people not staying at the Lodge, but Gisela said, "We never ate out because we didn't have the money." She thought that Dixie Lodge was torn down in the mid 1960s. She said, "There was a cute cabin at Dixie down by the shore that I wanted to buy and move to our land, but Jack talked me out of it. That cabin sold ice-cream cones in the '60s. I remember going there for a treat."

**"All of the Lees have sold their cabins**, but we still own ours. We hope our kids can keep it. They don't want us to sell and we don't either!"

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# TIME FOR THE 2018 SPRING BOATERS SAFETY CLASS

**The Balsam Lake Police Department** will again be holding its Spring Boaters Safety Course on Memorial Day weekend. Dates for the 2018 class are Friday, May 25, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on Saturday, May 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Village Hall. Cost is \$10 per student (DNR fee). There is room for 20 students. Children should be at least 10 years old to take the class but need the course by age 12 to operate a boat or PWC by themselves. Please call us at 715-485-3544 if you have any questions.

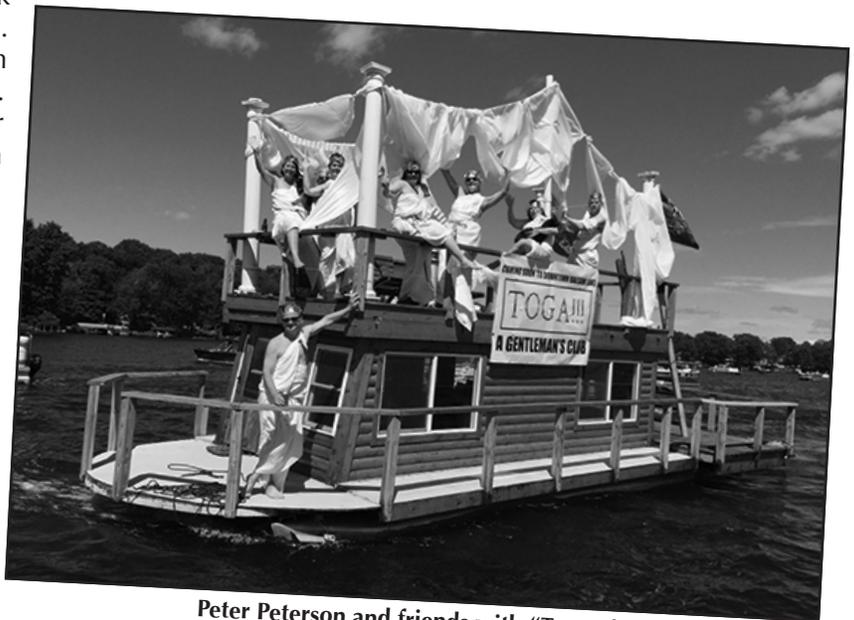
**Parents should also call the Wisconsin DNR** (1-888-936-7463) to get a DNR Customer ID number for their child before attending the class. Please bring your WI DNR Customer ID to class, we will fill out the DNR paperwork there.

Thomas J. Thompson, Chief of Police, Balsam Lake Police Department

# THE BLHA BOAT PARADE WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JULY 7, AT 3 P.M.

**Help us keep this great tradition alive!** Ideas for a boat parade float could include: patriotic, hunting, water sports, movie themes, sports themes, book themes, cartoon characters or any fun idea. Remember to use the free coupon at Balsam Lake Hardware for parade supplies. Also, please buy biodegradable balloons for water balloons from **Hardware Hank in Balsam Lake - Biodegradable Water Balloons**. Please contact Dave Turbenson at [daveturbenson@yahoo.com](mailto:daveturbenson@yahoo.com) if you would like to confirm your spot in the parade or if you have questions. Preregistration is not required but is requested.

**Participants meet up in East Balsam at 2:45 p.m.**, just past the big narrows (see **Parade Route Map below**). The judge blows the horn at 3 p.m. and the parade starts. The Wooden Boats lead the parade and everyone else follows. The parade lasts about an hour and gift certificates from local restaurants are given to the top five rated boats. Create some great memories for the kids, they love it!



Peter Peterson and friends with "Toga" float.

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**BOAT PARADE ROUTE  
Saturday, July 7  
3 p.m.**



# DO YOU LIKE A SCREEN DOOR THAT SQUEAKS AND SLAMS? WELL GOOD, **THE BALSAM LAKE MOTEL IS BACK!**

By Mary Skaret



As a *Balsam Lake neighbor*, I noticed the motel in town was changing – new sign, red chairs, old fashioned screen doors, new plantings and just plain activity. The weekend that I had passed by the parking lot had been filled with cars and boats I knew I had to stop in and meet the new owners. Evan Smith and his mother Nikki Smith had had a family cabin for 20 years on Goose Lake so they knew this area. In 2016, Evan was going to Minneapolis College of Art and Design but he knew he wanted a challenge and a slower pace of a small town. Evan and Nikki happened to discover the Balsam Lake Motel for sale on Craig's List. Well, they found the perfect challenge! When I called to find out more and get a tour, I got Evan's message on their answering machine saying, "\$60 per night and \$250 per week." It sounded good to me. Evan called me back that night and I got a tour the next day. I was shown little to big rooms, an efficiency apartment and a double room. These were all at different stages of remodeling with 16 units in all. While interviewing them, a couple came into the lobby to inquire about family accommodations for a week the following June—they were planning for a family wedding. Others have stopped in to see if it was really 'improved' and decided it looked pretty good!

**Their mission is to recapture** the '60s and '70s atmosphere as well as the values of family fun and safety. Evan and Nikki are doing a complete makeover and it will be a perfect 'new' addition to our community. Mother and son are both working very hard and are a remarkable team, each with unique love of the challenge, interest in the community, experience as entrepreneurs and creative artists – Evan even designed the new motel sign out front. Nikki Smith emphasized, "We are only limited by time and money and we have had only one argument between us! I love vintage and we are all about using 80% recycled and surplus materials from places like the Restore Store, local reuse it shops and garage sales." Some rooms have freshly laundered chenille bedspreads, 'Up North' cabin motifs to make you feel at home, along with the quality that comes with personal attention to detail. We even have a view of the woods and the sunsets!"

**In the early '60s** when my family first came to Balsam Lake, the oldest section of the motel was there and the two-story section was built in the '80s. Over time I remembered there being many different owners. It hadn't even been open in the last couple of years and it needed a complete overhaul. "It was all moldy and we just had to throw out all the old mattresses!" They immediately cleaned out the refuse so the neighbors had a better view of the backyard, with the red umbrella picnic table, lawn chairs and parklike benches for their guests and the neighbors. The rooms all have new bathrooms with new antimold walls and cleanable ceramic tile. "All our rooms have televisions. My grandkids thought it was funny – the original sign said, 'Color TV'! We also added air conditioners, little refrigerators, microwaves and most have kitchen areas and ceiling fans. But we have kept and restored the old, well used and in-demand 'Fish Cleaning Shed.' When we took over the motel, we were so lucky to have had lots of fisherman and hunters that had been here in the past."

**With this vintage spirit**, the Balsam Lake Motel will still have the style of the '60s and '70s era motel with a few more current frills to attract us. One of the next projects is to put in a big window to make the motel lobby more inviting to guests – my vote is to include 'must look at' old photographs of our town! It already has coffee available to guests when they arrive and a shelf with books and family board games to use while guests stay at the motel. As their guests, you will also have the advantage of experienced recommendations from Evan and Nikki to activities such as a massage by renowned local masseuse, hiking, cross-country skiing or biking at Kennedy County Park as well as appreciating history with a tour of our Polk County Museum. You can experience the thrills of Trollhaugen, Wild River Adventure Park or just swimming at Balsam Lake Town Beach. The owners are even going to put in a regulation Horseshoe Pit to tempt your competitive urges? And they have plans to make a larger community room with a kitchen for larger groups.

**So, if your cabin has more overnight guests than beds available**, or wants a peaceful family vacation, or are having a family reunion, are a 'Girl's Group' looking for a Spa Retreat destination, are a fisherman, hunter, snowmobiler or hiker? Are you in town waiting for availability of a house or cabin? We now have a great place in our community – for all of these – The Balsam Lake Motel!

**You can reach the owner/manager Evan Smith** at 715-485-3232 or email [balsamlakemotel@gmail.com](mailto:balsamlakemotel@gmail.com).

# An invitation

Balsam Lake Homeowners' Association would like to invite you to our

## Welcome to Summer Party!

This year our gathering will be held at

**Indianhead Supper Club in the Lower Club Room  
on Saturday, June 2, from 3 to 5 p.m.**

All adult members of BLHA are welcome. There will be a cash bar and free appetizers provided by Balsam Lake Homeowners' Association.

**See you there!**



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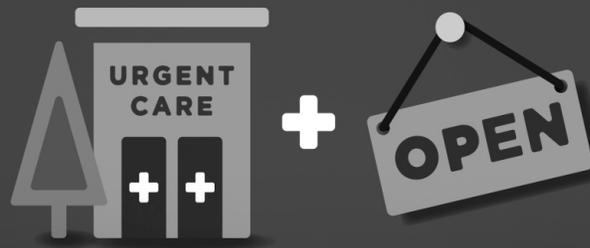
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**JULY 6 - 8, 2018**

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# TOXIC ALGAE FLOURISHES DESPITE VAST SUMS SPENT TO PREVENT IT

John Flesher and Angeliki Kastanis, Associate Press

Monroe, Mich. – **Competing in a bass fishing tournament** two years ago, Todd Steele cast his rod from his 21-foot motorboat – unaware that he was being poisoned. A thick, green scum coated western Lake Erie. And Steele, a semipro angler, was sickened by it.

**Driving home to Port Huron, Michigan**, he felt lightheaded, nauseous. By the next morning he was too dizzy to stand, his overheated body covered with painful hives. Hospital tests blamed toxic algae, a rising threat to U.S. waters. “It attacked my immune system and shut down my body’s ability to sweat,” Steele said. “If I wasn’t a healthy 51 year old and had some type of medical condition, it could have killed me.”

**He recovered, but Lake Erie hasn’t.** Nor have other waterways choked with algae that’s sickening people, killing animals and hammering the economy. The scourge is escalating from occasional nuisance to severe, widespread hazard, overwhelming government efforts to curb a leading cause: fertilizer runoff from farms.

**Pungent, sometimes toxic blobs** are fouling waterways from the Great Lakes to Chesapeake Bay, from the Snake River in Idaho to New York’s Finger Lakes and reservoirs in California’s Central Valley.

**Last year, Florida Beaches were closed** when algae blooms oozed from Lake Okeechobee. More than 100 people fell ill after swimming in Utah’s largest freshwater lake. Pets and livestock have died after drinking algae-laced water. Oxygen-starved “dead zones” caused by algae decay have increased thirty-fold since 1960, causing massive fish kills.

**Algae are essential to food chains**, but these tiny plants and bacteria sometimes multiply out of control. Within the past decade, outbreaks have been reported in every state, a trend likely to accelerate with global warming.

**“It’s a big pervasive threat** that we as society are not doing nearly enough to solve,” said Don Scavia, a University of Michigan environmental scientist. Many monster blooms are triggered by an overload of agricultural fertilizers in warm, calm waters, scientists say.

**Government agencies have spent billions of dollars** on the problem. But an Associated Press investigation found little to show for their efforts.

- Levels of algae-feeding nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorous are climbing in many lakes and streams.
- A small minority of farms participate in federal programs that promote practices to reduce fertilizer runoff. When more farmers want to sign up, there often isn’t enough money.

- Despite years of research, it’s debatable how well these measures work.

**Instead of ordering agriculture** to stem the flood of nutrients, regulators usually seek voluntary cooperation, an approach not afforded other big polluters. Farmers are asked to take steps such as planting “cover crops” to reduce off-season erosion – often with taxpayers’ subsidies.

**The U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service**, part of the Department of Agriculture, says it has spent more than \$29 billion on voluntary programs since 2009. Jimmy Bramblett, deputy chief for programs, told AP the efforts had produced “tremendous” results but acknowledged only about 6 percent of the nation’s roughly 2 million farms are enrolled at any time. Many experts say limiting runoff is the only way to rein in rampaging algae. “We’ve had decades of approaching this issue largely through a voluntary framework,” said Jon Devine, senior attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council. “Clearly the existing system isn’t working.”

**Farmers say they can accomplish more** on their own than by following government dictates. “There’s enough rules already,” said John Weiser, a third-generation dairy-man with 5,000 cows in Wisconsin.

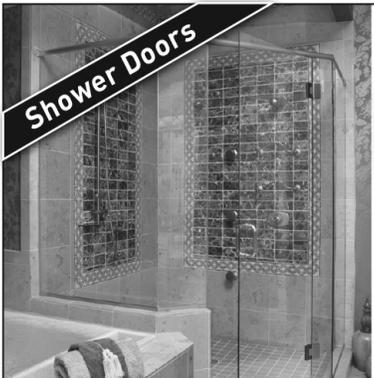
**“Without economic consequences for runoff**, farmers have an incentive to use all the fertilizer needed to produce the highest yield,” said Mark Clark, a University of Florida ecologist. “There’s nothing that said, ‘For every excessive pound I put on, I’ll have to pay a fee.’ There’s no stick.”



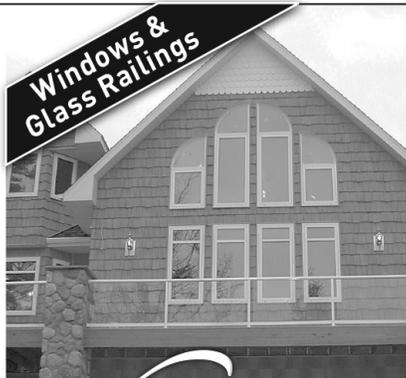
This article was sent to *Shorelines* from BLHA Members Don Southworth and Marilyn Cantisano.

We appreciate our members sending us articles of interest.

We have all seen the algae floating in some of our local ponds.



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*(See details on page 5.)*



Watch out for the girls from East Balsam.

# **DONATE LOCAL! DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE AN ADULT DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN OUR COMMUNITY?**

*By Mary Skaret*

**It was begun in 1965** by a group of parents who wanted some group “Arts and Crafts” time for their handicapped adult children. They met at Wanderoo School, then the current Head Start location and was supported by Polk County Association of Retarded Citizens-PCARC. Kathleen Clark, the current director since 2012, was a social worker for Polk County Human Services and has worked with this group for 44 years. In the early ‘70s, she was involved with some of the current clients, placing them in foster care as infants.

**Even though it looked like a county program**, it wasn’t. So, they became a private-nonprofit corporation. In 1982, Endeavors Adult Development Center located at 101 150th Street in a rented Polk County building. Endeavors provides for many needs of handicapped adults, many different physical or mental disabilities who are bused in from as far away as Clam Falls, Cumberland to New Richmond. All clients are provided bus transportation from their homes to Endeavors each morning and back home in the afternoon.

**Endeavors now serves** about 100 clients – providing leadership



**Women working in the Endeavors greenhouse.**

and educational services for their employment in a sheltered workshop: contracted services such as the Polk County Recycling and Bernick’s Beverages, cleaning services in the community, lawn services to churches, businesses and county and state properties. Endeavors even operates a full-service greenhouse in Milltown open to the public. It is open year-round providing produce for local farmers markets and year-round hydroponically grown vegetables, seedlings of vegetables and flowers, garden ready annuals and perennials, decorative planters and small trees and shrubs.

**Endeavors 38 staff positions** provide mentoring, teaching and supervision through administrative services, job coaching, bus driving, client services, production education & supervision and personal needs and services with lots of cross training.

**Endeavors mission** is service to this population of our citizens as a nonprofit organization. Again, it is not a city, county, state or federal program. Their funds come from some of the services that are contracted. They receive funds from vendors for small parts assembly. Some clients also receive “Family Care” funds that pay for Endeavors services and they receive small grants from organizations such as United Way. Other grants are applied for that help pay for specifics such as wheelchair buses. Funding comes from many sources and is always changing. Kathy says, “There is never much left over!”

**If you would like to know more** about Endeavors and these ‘little known services’ in our own community, they do have a website: <http://www.endeavorsadc.org>



**One of the client employees getting dropped off at Endeavors.**



**Worker in the Endeavors greenhouse.**



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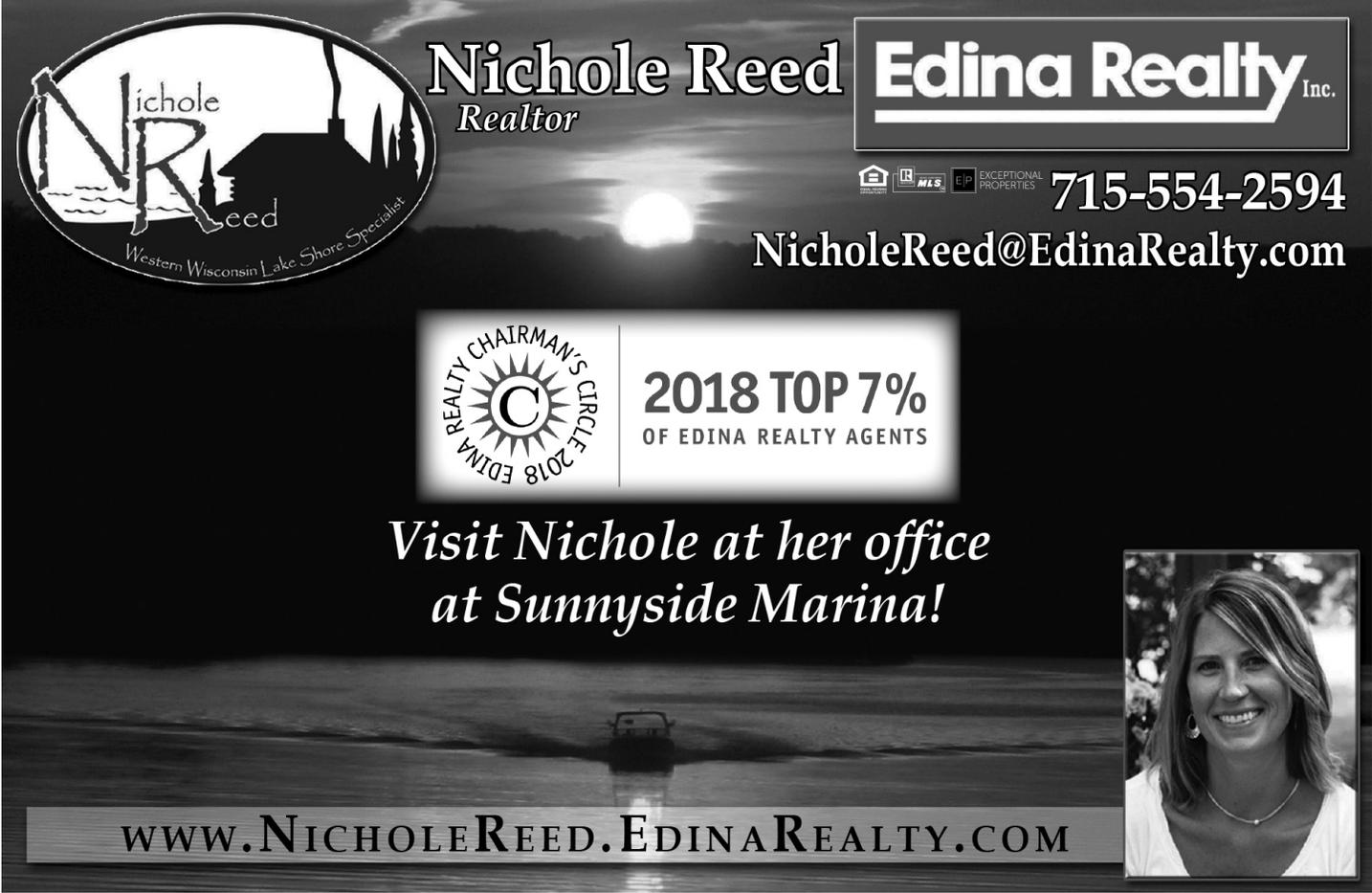
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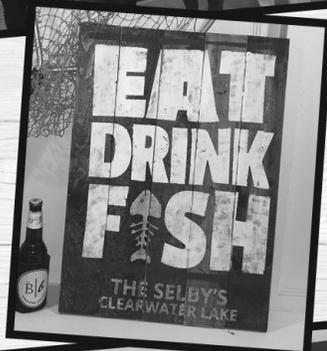
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