



THE PELICAN BRIEF

A summer newsletter for the residents of Pelican Lake, Little Pelican, Fish and Bass Lakes • June 2007

Prepping for Lake Season CLEAN-UP DAYS

The ice went off Pelican Lake on April 22 signaling the start of the season. Rushing to get flowers planted and patio furniture dusted off in time for Memorial Day, lake residents are looking forward to another beautiful summer.

The Pelican Lake Property Owners Assoc. (PLPOA) has scheduled annual Clean-Up Days on June 20th and 21st. Those who have paid their dues are invited to leave their piles of trash by the roadside those two days for special pick-up. Have your items out before 6 a.m. on the 20th.

As usual, no paint or other chemicals, no large pieces of wood, tree branches or concrete, but just about anything else can be discarded to be hauled away.

If you haven't paid your annual PLPOA dues yet, please send your \$45 check to: PLPOA % Helen DeHollander P.O. Box 1782 Detroit Lakes MN 56502



Water Quality

A septic system study conducted last fall on Pelican Lake, Little Pelican, Fish and Bass lakes uncovered some reasons for concern about water quality on our lakes. The study, paid for by the Pelican Group of Lakes Improvement District (PGOLID), found that of 137 septic systems and holding tanks inspected, more than 70% were not being maintained properly.

The good news is only 15% were found to be potentially impacting the water quality of the lakes, and proper maintenance of septic systems and holding tanks can be easily fixed by property owners.

At the end of last summer, PGOLID hired Moriya Rufer to serve as Water Resource Coordinator. As part of her job, Rufer will be conducting brief informational seminars this summer to explain how property owners should check and properly maintain their systems. Rufer said, "The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency ranks septic systems and the treatment of waste as one of the top four components that influence the water quality of a lake so we should make every effort to keep these systems running properly."

Rufer adds that proper maintenance of septic systems and holding tanks is usually an easy fix once people are made aware of how to do it. At the PLPOA Spring Meeting June 8, she will give a brief summary of septic system and holding tank maintenance and have informational handouts available (*more details p 2*).

Details of the septic system study, maintenance information and cleaning frequency calculator worksheets for both septic systems and holding tanks can be found on the Pelican Lake website at www.pelicanlakemn.org.

President's Pen



by
Dave Majkrzak,
president of
PLPOA

Welcome back for another summer at the lakes. The Pelican Lake Property Owners Association (PLPOA) is continually trying to do a better job for all its members. With this in mind we are trying a few different ways to help us better communicate with all property owners. Our spring meeting this year will be held at Fair Hills on Friday June 8th. The social starts at 7PM. The meeting follows at 7:30. We are planning to have a presentation regarding the recent PGOLID septic survey along with info about upcoming educational seminars.

Our lakes continue to be in demand and it is reflected in the most recent adjustments to property values. The average value for Pelican Lake property went up 8.7% from \$4600 to \$5000 a frontage foot. Little Pelican went up 20%; Fish Lake is up 44%. A complete explanation of how your taxes are calculated is on the PLPOA web site.

And a final note about Otter Tail County Commissioner Malcolm Lee who passed away last fall. Malcolm was a great representative of all the people and the lakes in Otter Tail County. Malcolm always made the time to visit with anyone who had a question or concern. He will be missed.

Keeping Our Lakes Clean

Water Resource Coordinator Moriya Rufer has been hired to monitor the water quality of the lakes and inlets in our Pelican Group of Lakes Improvement District (PGOLID).

PGOLID president Mike Ostbye says Rufer knows her stuff. She has a masters degree in water quality from the University of Minnesota. "We're lucky to have her on our team, helping to keep our lakes as clean and problem-free as possible," Ostbye said.

Rufer will conduct a series of seminars this summer designed to make us wiser about the long term care of our lake property.

SEMINAR INTRODUCTION • June 8, 7:30 PM Fair Hills Resort

At the Pelican Lake Property Owners Association meeting, Rufer will give a 20 minute primer on the three seminars for the summer. All the handouts for the summer series will be available at this meeting.

SHORELINE MANAGEMENT • June 14, 7:00 PM Cormorant Town Hall

This seminar will demonstrate how to make your shoreline both beautiful and functional. Rufer will be joined by a master gardener with a presentation and then a Q&A session. Those who attend this seminar will also be able to apply for the Shoreline Habitat Restoration Grant Program, which provides funds to help with shoreline restoration.

PROTECTING PELICAN LAKE • July 12, 7:00 PM Cormorant Town Hall

This 45 minute seminar will focus on the lake's septic system and holding tank maintenance. Handouts will include a list of tank pumpers in the area with prices and worksheets for calculating cleaning frequency.

WEEDS AND ALGAE • July 28, 10:00 AM Fair Hills Resort

During the annual meeting of the Pelican Lake Property Owners Association, a DNR employee will join Rufer in a 20 minute presentation about invasive plants and algae. Handouts will be available.



Construction to Begin Soon

The buildings that used to house Crystal Pierz Marine on the northwest side of Pelican Lake have been cleared away and if all goes as planned, construction should begin soon on Pelican View Estates.

The owners of the property refer to the 75 acre development as a common interest community, which will consist of 22 single

family homes and 18 twin homes. The developers say a variety of home plans will be available and most maintenance services will be provided as part of the condominium association fee.

Marketing info will be available soon. To receive updates, e-mail your contact information to: info@PelicanView.com





Julie and Mike Barner (Broadwater Beach) get ready for lake season. "There's lots to do before we can get the boats in the water and fire up the barbeque grill," Julie says.

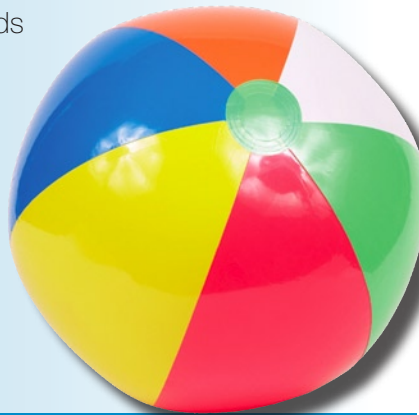


SOME SUMMER FUN

Hundreds turned out for the Minnesota Walleye Opener May 12th, and similar numbers were expected for the start of Bass fishing May 26th. There is a long list of area events and activities for those looking for something to do besides lay on the dock and read.

For starters, check this list and the Calendar of Events on the back page.

- June 2 Muskie Opener
- July 2 & 3..... Street Fair in Detroit Lakes
- June 22 & 23 Friendship Festival in Pelican Rapids
- June 22 Turtle Fest in Perham
- July 2..... Sailing lessons on Pelican Lake
(contact Jeff Peltier 532-3388)
- July 5..... Swimming lessons begin
(contact Faye Engkjer 532-7066)
- July 7-15 Water Carnival in Detroit Lakes
- July 14 & 15..... Phelps Mill Art Festival
- July 28..... Art in the Park in Pelican Rapids
- August 2-4 We Fest in Detroit Lakes
- August 6-12..... Pine to Palm Golf Tournament
- August 31 Steam Threshers Reunion begins



Check the Pelican Lake web site for more events: www.pelicanlakemn.org

Creating Pelican Paradise



Artist Linda Gaugert, Alexandria Mn, with the PLPOA pelican before she started painting it. Linda said she had first thought of painting a swimsuit on the pelican but decided instead on a landscape. We'll have more about Linda and the pelican in our next issue

Detroit Lakes has its glitzy fish, Fargo its painted buffalo. Now Pelican Rapids is picking up on the public art craze with a campaign it is calling "Friends of Pelican Pete." The campaign is a Chamber of Commerce project designed to promote tourism in the town of 2300 southwest of Pelican Lake.

Thirty eight of the plain fiberglass, five foot pelican statues have been purchased by various Pelican Rapids businesses. Each has been assigned to an area artist, all of whom have their creative juices flowing this month, trying to come up with the most fun, unusual, eye-catching pelican. One of the five foot pelicans will end up at Pelican Lake. The Pelican Lake Property Owners Association will decide later this summer where it will be displayed.

The unveiling of the pelican art will be scheduled later this summer. We'll keep you posted.

DINING OUT

Here are ten area restaurants where you can get something to eat and take a break from the kitchen.

1 Cormorant Inn: (439-3535)
10510 Cty Hwy 5, Cormorant. They now have a full bar. Open 7 days a week. **SPECIALTY:** Jumbo King Crab.

2 The Pub: (532-9925)
10790 Cty Hwy 5, Cormorant. Full bar and open 7 days a week. **SPECIALTY:** Saturday night prime rib.

3 The Cornfield Café: (863-5777)
Junction of Hwy 34 & 59. Open 7 days a week for breakfast, lunch and dinner. **SPECIALTY:** Homemade pies & caramel rolls.

4 The Muddy Moose: (863-2900)
30 N. Broadway, Pelican Rapids. Open 7 days a week for breakfast and lunch. Call for evening hours. **SPECIALTY:** Best ever burger and sweet potato fries.

5 Billy's Bar: (342-2451)
158 E. Main Street, Vergas. Full bar and restaurant open 7 days a week with bingo on Thursday night and Sunday afternoon. **SPECIALTY:** ½ pound burger.

6 Spanky's Stone Hearth: (342-3479)
34785 Cty Hwy 4, Rose Lake. Full bar and restaurant. Open 7 days a week. **SPECIALTY:** Ribs, broasted chicken & prime rib.

7 Hotel Shoreham: (847-9913)
24110 County Highway between Melissa & Sally Lakes. Look for the new patio bar. Karaoke on Thursday nights will start again mid-June. **SPECIALTY:** Walleye.

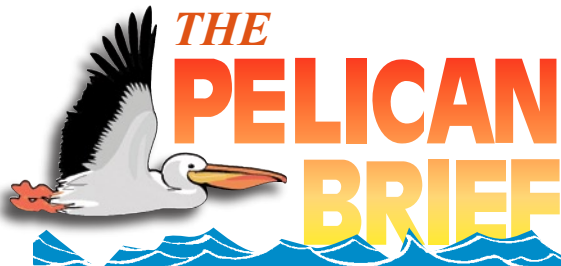
8 Audubon Zephyr Club: (439-3868)
485 Main St. Audubon. Lunch is served Monday-Friday and dinner 7 nights a week. **SPECIALTY:** Bar-b-cue ribs.

9 The Fireside: (847-8192)
1462 E. Shore Dr., Detroit Lakes. Full bar and restaurant. Open 7 days a week. **SPECIALTY:** Charcoal grilled steaks.

10 Zorbaz: (532-2254)
NW Corner of Pelican Lake. Full bar and restaurant. Open 7 days a week from lunch to 2 am. Call for take-out **SPECIALTY:** Pizza.



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The Pelican Brief will be published three or four times this summer by a volunteer team made up of lake residents including Editor Claudia Danovic (Liberty Beach), Doris Clyne, Jeff Peltier and Sandy Ostbye (all Broadwater Beach).

The design, printing and distribution of the newsletter are funded by PLPOA dues, and as a budget item of PGOLID as a vehicle to distribute its meeting minutes.

If you have comments about the publication, story ideas or pictures, contact claudia@pelicanlakemn.org

EARLY SUMMER 2007 • Calendar of Events

Jun 2	8:00am	PGOLID Board Meeting, Cormorant Hall
Jun 8	7:00pm	PLPOA Social, Fair Hills
Jun 8	7:30pm	PLPOA Spring Meeting
Jun 8	8:30pm	Captains & Majors Meeting
Jun 20/21		PLPOA Clean up
Jun 23	8:30am	PLPOA Board Meeting, Fair Hills
Jul 2	9:00am	PLSS sailing lessons (jeffpeltier@plyc.info)
Jul 4	9:00am	4 th of July Parade (counter clockwise)
Jul 4	1:00pm	PLYC 4 th of July Cup Race
Jul 4	10:30pm	Fireworks Display
Jul 5		Swimming lessons (spitz@cableone.net)
*****		More events planned for late summer
visit our	website	www.pelicanlakemn.org