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Barbecue restaurant marinating in success

The Barbecue Company gains fans in locals, pro golfers

By Kelly Smith
Special to The Freeman

TOWN OF ERIN — A small, urban-style barbecue restaurant with a unique “Wall of Fame” is not what you would expect to find in the rural farm fields and scenic woodlands of the Town of Erin in Washington County.

The Barbecue Company Grill and Catering occupies one-half of a small, one-story commercial building located next to a nursery at the intersection of highways 83 and O, one mile east of the Erin Hills golf course.

The business is inconspicuous except for some picnic tables, a sign, and advertising banners in front.

It is owned by restaurant and real estate entrepreneur Andy Jepsen of Stone Bank, who moved to Lake Country from Arizona in 2005 in search of a more relaxed lifestyle and a better place to raise kids.

Jepsen also owns one of the largest barbecue restaurants and catering businesses in Arizona.

The restaurant in Erin has four tables that can accommodate about 18 customers in a small dining area dominated by a large service counter, as well as offering carryout service.

The business is “pretty evenly divided” between the carryout and sit-down restaurant and catering operations, Jepsen said.

Behind the counter are containers of smoked barbecued ribs, beef brisket, adobo chicken and pulled pork that are the specialties of the house.

In the back is a well-equipped commercial kitchen with large grills and outside there are giant smokers and a large stack of cherry firewood.

Good writing on the wall

Customers can order their barbecue “to go” or eat at one of the tables near “the wall.”

On the wall are autographs of about a dozen professional golfers who patronized the restaurant before competing in the U.S. Open Championship held a year ago at Erin Hills, June 12 – 18.

They include Masters Champions Bubba Watson, Zack Johnson and Jordan Spieth, 2009 U.S. Open Champion Steward Cink, and Davis Love III, who won the 1997 PGA Championship.

Watson was first, arriving about 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 11, according to Jepsen.

Early in the afternoon, Spieth and Johnson arrived together.

And, while they were there, Love and his son Dru arrived.

Late Sunday night, about 11 p.m., Jepsen was locking the door when Cink pulled into the parking lot and asked if he could get something to eat.

“It was dark and couldn’t see who was in the car, so I asked him his name. When he told me he was Steward Cink, I told him come on in,” Jepsen explained.

Jepsen believes that Watson, and possibly Johnson and Spieth, alerted their fellow golfers about The Barbecue Company via Twitter:



Kelly Smith/Special to The Freeman
Andy Jepsen of Stone Bank takes a pork shoulder out of one of the smokers located behind the Barbecue Company Grill and Catering in the Town of Erin that he opened in 2011.

“I know Bubba tweeted and I think Jordan Spieth and Zack Johnson did too,” Jepsen continued.

Watson stopped at the Barbecue Company twice in the same day.

The first time, he ordered a rack of ribs.

The second time Jepsen prepared for him a sandwich featuring a combination of meats.

“I knew barbecue was one of his favorite foods, so I made sure he got a taste of everything,” Jepsen explained.

“My regular customers will tell you it can get pretty addictive,” Jepsen said.

“Every time I prepare something, I try to make sure it has a specifically different flavor profile,” Jepsen added.

For example, pulled pork begins with a four- to six- to eight-pound shoulder cut that is rubbed with seasoning before it spends 16 hours at low temperature in a commercial smoker.

Then it’s finished in a high heat oven for the last two hours of the cooking

process.

It is shredded after resting for four to five hours.

To prepare ribs, Jepsen soaks them in a brine for 24 hours before applying a proprietary cooking competition “rib rub” and smoking them in a cherry wood fire for four to six hours.

Barbecued chicken is first marinated for 24 hours in a proprietary marinade of citrus and seasoning, then grilled and sliced, and covered with a green chili sauce.

See BBQ, PAGE 2A

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INSIDE

Honoring area’s last Civil War veteran

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Kayakers have ripple effects

Page 3B




Monches running hot in LOL ball

SPORTS/Page 4B

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JULY 2018

Remembering honor and courage

Event pays homage to Civil War
veteran James Jones

By **Dave Fidlin**
Special to The Freeman

OCONOMOWOC — To say James F. Jones lived a storied life throughout his 96 years would be an understatement. Jones, who lived much of his life in Oconomowoc, served with the Union Army in the Civil War, enduring a litany of hardships and insurmountable odds. He later went out west, hoping to benefit from the Gold Rush, though he instead wound up walking back home without a mode of transportation.

Representatives from several groups — including the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and an initiative known as the Last Soldier Project — paid homage to Jones on July 7 at LaBelle Cemetery, his resting place for the past 76 years.

Jones holds the distinction of being the last Union veteran of the Civil War to live in Waukesha County. He died in 1942.

Stephen Michaels of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War discussed the history of Jones and his family during the ceremony, which included a gun salute and rendition of taps.

Although Jones' birthplace was Batavia, New York, his parents moved to Oconomowoc the same year, which was 1846.

"Oconomowoc was pretty much a fledgling town," Michaels said, pointing out the community's roots go back just two years earlier.

Brothers enlisted
Jones and his brother,

William Jones, each enlisted in the 39th Wisconsin Infantry. Jones did so once he reached age 18, in 1864, and was part of the infantry's Company B. He was bound for Tennessee.

Craig Wheeler, also part of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, spoke briefly at the ceremony of the challenges associated with military service during those years.

Soldiers in combat were known to suffer from such physical ailments as starvation, thirst, severe illnesses and, for some, death. Psychological challenges also ran deep, including loneliness and hearing the wailing of widows and orphans who lost loved ones from combat. Although Jones made it home safely, William died during combat in Memphis.

After the war, Jones' challenges and displays of endurance again were tested when he ventured to the Black Hills at the height of the Gold Rush there.

Instead of striking it rich, however, Jones found himself in the unenviable position of losing his horse and wagon to theft. He wound up walking home from South Dakota to Oconomowoc. After the setback, he joined the Grand Army of the Republic.

Grit and character

In addition to service groups, several dignitaries were on hand at the event, including Mayor Dave Nold, who said he is proud to have Oconomowoc associated with a person who demonstrated perseverance.



The Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War fire a 21-gun salute during a ceremony honoring James Jones, the last Civil War veteran buried in Waukesha County. The ceremony took place at his gravesite in La Belle Cemetery on July 7.

"I'm proud to be in a community that has people like Mr. Jones," Nold said. "We can't forget about the grit and character of our ancestors."

Honoring and commemorating the service of veterans has been a focal point of several local groups, including the Oconomowoc Historical Society.

Kurt Schrang, president of the historical society, played a leadership role in redesigning the city's Veterans Memorial Park. The volunteer-driven project, he said, is an opportunity to honor members of all branches of the military from all wars.

"The veterans don't like to talk about what they did," Schrang said. "But I



A marker honoring James Jones as the last Union veteran buried in Waukesha County was placed next to his grave during the ceremony.

think (the memorial park) is very important. What (the veterans) do is protect us."



John Gilles, representing Col. Hans C. Heg, Camp No. 15 Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, covers his heart with a Union hat as Deacon Dean J. Collins says a prayer at La Belle Cemetery.

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BBQ

From Page 1A

“Awesome” and “fantastic” was how two recent lunch customers were overheard describing their meals to Jepsen.

Jepsen used an ingenious marketing strategy to take advantage of the U.S. Open, which attracted more than 100,000 spectators.

Nearly all the out-of-town spectators were bused into Erin Hills from giant remote parking lots near interstate highways.

However, many of the thousands of southeastern Wisconsin residents who were volunteering or working at the tournament had to pass The Barbecue Company while driving to Erin Hills.

Each of the seven days of the championship, Jepsen moved his three giant smokers next to the intersection making sure the billowing smoke was obvious to anyone passing by.

He cheerfully confesses he caused an occasional traffic jam because of drivers gawking at the barbecue stand, much to the displeasure of the county deputies trying to direct traffic.

“I made sure to time it so

every day at 4 p.m., about the time people were beginning to leave the tournament, there would be large stacks of ribs, briskets and chicken lined up next to the smokers where people could see them,” he explained.

Jepsen says he gained at least \$25,000 in catering business from exposure he received during the U.S. Open Championship.

He used a similar strategy when starting up the business.

For the first two years, he did all of the barbecuing outside where he served dinners on picnic tables under a tent.

He later moved inside and now does business during select months during the winter in addition to his year-round catering operation.

Jepsen, 57, was born and raised in Redding, Pa., but he attended college in northern Arizona, where he studied the tourism and hospitality industries.

After several jobs in sales, he began a career as a rib cook and in 1987 purchased the Barbecue Company Grill and Catering in Phoenix.

He developed it into the one of the state’s largest barbecue and catering oper-

ations.

His first corporate client was the Milwaukee Brewers’ spring training camp.

In 2005, he collapsed while working a large catering event. His doctors told him he needed to “slow down.”

He and his then-wife, Julie Shaefer, decided to move to Lake Country. She was born and raised in Oconomowoc.

“We did it for the kids, too. There were circumstances occurring in Arizona that we just did not think were appropriate for raising kids,” Jepsen added.

Driving kids back and forth to athletic events along Highway 83 is how Jepsen spotted the location for his barbecue business.

He later spent hours sitting at the intersection counting cars before deciding to open the business in 2011.

“It is the only four-way stop intersection within 10 miles. You have Erin Hills on one side and Holy Hill on the other side,” he noted.

“I remember the first day I was open. It was Mother’s Day and I did \$500. The next day I did \$1,000 and the third day I did \$1,500. That’s when I knew it was going to work,” he concluded.



Kelly Smith/Special to The Freeman

Stone Bank restaurant and real estate entrepreneur Andy Jepsen sits in front of the “Wall of Fame” at his Barbecue Company Grill and Catering restaurant in the Town of Erin.

Business rolling at Simply Cinnamon Bakery

Pewaukee bakery makes up to 3,000 rolls per week

By Brandon Anderegg
Banderegg@conley.net
262-513-2658

PEWAUKEE — The bakery may be called Simply Cinnamon Bakery, but the process of making thousands of cinnamon rolls each week isn’t so simple, said owner Barb Sweet.

“We roll them by hand and frost them by hand and it’s all made from scratch,” Sweet said. “It’s an all-day process and there’s no fast way to do it.”

Located at 115 Oakton Ave. in the heart of downtown Pewaukee, Sweet has owned the modest and old-timey bakery for nine years, which is a small fraction of the 29 years that she’s been in the busi-

ness.

With just one employee, Sweet will bake up to 3,000 cinnamon rolls each week that are then sent to local grocery stores in the area such as Woodman’s, Festival Foods, Piggly Wiggly, and Sentry. In fact, her recipe is so well-liked that many of her cinnamon rolls cross state lines to Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and as far away as Pennsylvania, she said.

At the start of each day, Sweet will convert 160 pounds of dough into balls of dough that are eventually rolled out, and then baked. But the next step, which Sweet said takes the longest, is adding the frosting.

“Then the Keebler elves come, and they finish it

off,” Sweet said jokingly. “That’d be nice.”

Even though cinnamon rolls take a long time to make, Sweet enjoys the creativity in decorating cookies and experimenting with new recipes, she said.

Also for sale in her shop are brownies, turnovers and decorated cookies for every occasion.

But she also loves the customers and the quaintness of the area, she said.

“One of my favorite things is when kids come here in the summer with their buckets and their fishing rods,” Sweet said. “That’s the cutest thing.”

As for those wondering if Sweet’s last name has anything with her career, the answer may come as a surprise.

“No, it’s just my name,” Sweet said. “Perfect for the job, but thank God, it’s not Baker.”



Brandon Anderegg/Freeman Staff

Barb Sweet and Ariel Dawley prepare 80 to 100 cases of cinnamon rolls each week, which can be anywhere from 700 to 900 cinnamon buns a day.

Simply Cinnamon Bakery is open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. For more information about the bakery, call 262-691-4022 or search Simply Cinnamon Bakery on Facebook.

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Hartland to explore having a community center

Site identified; study showed residents interested

By Brandon Anderegg
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262-513-2657

HARTLAND —The Hartland Village Board has identified a site for a community center and conducted a non-binding vote to explore whether the people of Hartland would be interested in such a center.

Though talks of a community center are in their infancy, the board is considering the purchase of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church at 415 W. Capitol Drive in Hartland, Village President Jeff Pfannerstill said. The church has indicated they may sell in the near future, but whether the community center will be located at the church, or if the village will even have a community center, is still up in the air, he added.

“Some form of community center that not only makes a great place for the youth to go to, but also for the people in retirement,” Pfannerstill said.

This is also not the first time that Hartland has considered having a community center in the village. Back in 2011, the Village Board issued a community center survey that indicated residents liked the idea, said Richard Landwehr, village trustee. “We almost had a spot,” Landwehr said. “We had been



Brandon Anderegg/Freeman Staff

Village President Jeff Pfannerstill identified the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church at 415 W. Capitol Drive in Hartland as a possible location for the community center.

working on it for five years so there are people that are interested.”

In fact, the Village Board was steps away from voting on the center in 2011. However, board members and residents were concerned with the cost of a center since at the time, the village was spending \$2.5 million on the library expansion, Landwehr said.

“We ran into the library at the same time, but we didn’t want to throw \$2.5 million there and this community center was \$6 million,”

Landwehr said.

But Pfannerstill was optimistic, adding that maybe the recreation department could be incorporated. He also said it might be possible to find a location and have a community center for under \$6 million. However, the board will conduct another survey to gauge the interest of residents as the community center discussion progresses, Pfannerstill said.

“These things cost money,” Pfannerstill said. “But we wouldn’t want to spend it if nobody wants it.”

Pewaukee School District names first school resource officer

PEWAUKEE — The Pewaukee School District, in collaboration with the Pewaukee Police Department, has selected Officer Julie Buddenhagen as its first-ever school resource officer. Buddenhagen will begin working on campus Aug. 27.

Buddenhagen has been a member of the Pewaukee Police Department for the past 14 years, which has included specialized training and experience as the lead officer for the depart-

ment on internet crimes against children since 2010. She is also one of only a handful of officers in Waukesha County trained as a forensic interviewer.

“Officer Buddenhagen is someone we have worked with extensively, so we are thrilled to add her experience, training and passion to collaborate more closely with our students, staff and parents,” said Superintendent Mike Cady. “This is a great next step as we build on our fantastic working

relationship with the Pewaukee Police Department.”

Buddenhagen was recently named Investigator of the Year for a Wisconsin Internet Crimes Against Children Affiliate by the state Department of Criminal Investigation. She has also participated in training on campus for dealing with an active threat using the ALICE model, which was implemented in the district this year.

— Freeman Staff



Mary Catanese/Special to The Freeman

First day of Pewaukee Farmers Market

Grace Adams, left, and Shae Haid sample different meats served in ManSnack marinade prepared by Mark Porter at the Pewaukee Chamber of Commerce Farmers Market on June 13.

Harken Industrial acquires Chicago company

Elevated Safety teaches rope access and rescue safe practices

CITY OF PEWAUKEE — Harken Industrial announced June 26 it acquired Chicago-based Elevated Safety, LLC, which trains, consults and equips rope access and rescue workers.

Headquartered in the City of Pewaukee, Harken Industrial engineers and manufactures a wide range of efficient, durable, lightweight, load-handling and safe access solutions, including fiber rope winches, pulleys, trolley and rail systems, static attachments, rope ascent and controlled descent products.

“Harken Industrial combines the knowledge of

rope handling and high-tech materials used in competitive sailing with the techniques of the roping world while Elevated Safety blends the tradition of fire and rescue with the techniques of rope access,” said Sean Cogan, Harken Industrial sales manager, in a statement.

He said that as one company, Harken Industrial and Elevated Safety will be able to train, consult and equip clients with materials and knowledge.

“We set a standard and accept nothing other than excellence. Elevated Safety and Harken Industrial have been working behind the scenes together for the

better part of a decade, developing trust and respect. It made sense to combine,” Cogan said.

Elevated Safety co-owner Ross Chapman said that Elevated Safety, as a dealer for a variety of category leading manufacturers of rope access and rescue equipment, would provide Harken Industrial customers another source for equipment.

The privately held Elevated Safety was founded in 2010 and has a staff of 40 part-time instructors — all of whom are firefighters/paramedics. The firm’s primary service area is northeastern Illinois and southeastern Wisconsin but it has done training across the country and internationally.

— Freeman Staff

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Check out the August edition of *Lake Country This Month* for the guide to the 2018 MBA Parade of Homes.

The guide includes the Parade schedule, specials and helpful home building and remodeling tips.

Lake Country
THIS MONTH

Collectors have an edge with antique knife boxes

Handle vintage World War I poster with care

Q.: My mother found these knife boxes many years ago. Could you give me some history on the origin and today's value?
— Jeff, Pewaukee



BARBARA EASH
Antiques Appraised

A.: In the 18th century, pairs of English knife boxes were used in households for the upper social ranks. These purposeful, veneered boxes were custom-made by cabinet makers to store and exhibit valuable sterling flatware in the upright position. Ostentatiously these knife and fork boxes were intentionally placed in plain view, but discreetly anchored to the sideboard. Estate owners made a habit of opening box covers to count the silver pieces with one glance.

These fitted boxes were much more complex internally than the outside revealed. The serpentine profile covers rows of tiered, padded slots; curved slots were for extra large serving spoons. The boxes were small enough to be moved to secure storage or to the silversmith for generational silver reweight. It is not dirt that is removed with polish, it is silver tarnish. Over time, each cleaning diminishes the amount of silver, and value.

The boxes' original function vanished when sideboards were designed with specialty lock drawers. With few alternate uses today, these unusual-shaped boxes are often incorrectly identified at estate sales.

This handsome mahogany pair has pictorial inlays, narrow band stringing, all original partitions, stable hinged lids and brass lock escutcheons. This pair only needs minor restoration. Comparative sets average **\$1,400.**

Interesting find:

Once when I was apprais-

ing a similar set, my flashlight beam reflected on something taped in the lower concealment space. The object was a ring more valuable than the boxes!

World War I print

Q.: Since we have our great-grandfather's military uniform from World War I, I felt a connection with this old picture that I found in a country shop. Any ideas for new framing?
— Claudia, Waukesha

A.: The U.S. became involved in World War I in 1917. The title, "Duty Calls," urged not to hesitate! With limited communication to the masses, there were very few means to inspire personal commitment to the cause. Often called propaganda posters, government, non-profit and other organizations printed thousands. Images encouraged enlistment, patriotism and often acknowledged personal sacrifice. Printed on thin paper pulp, the ones found to exist have been framed.

When removing the old frame and glass, use caution! The paper and glass are brittle and tack nails could be rusted. It will also allow you to dismiss the thought that something valuable might be stored behind the picture. Use only professional archival quality material including double matting and non-glare glass. Or have it professionally framed.

You can add the framing cost to the present value of **\$50.00.**

Interested in learning more about the world of collectible antiques? An antiques class is to take place 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. July 20.

Topics covered include inherited dinnerware, spotting hidden gems, your selling options, and a Q-and-A time.

It takes place at designXchange Home Decor Consignment, 600 Hartbrook Drive, Hartland.

Class fee is \$25.00. Bring three items for appraisal

To register, telephone 262-367-1010.

Submit an item for consideration

Do you have an item or collection of items that could be shared in a future newspaper column? Let Barbara Eash hear about it!

To have your item or collection considered send the following information: up to three, sharp, well-lit photos of front & back of the item(s), measurements as well as any history or hearsay, length of ownership and your full name, address and daytime phone number. Mail: Waukesha Antique Shop, ATTN Barbara Eash, 1427 E. Racine, Ave. Unit E-2, Waukesha, WI 53186 or email: beappraisals@gmail.com. If your item(s) are considered for a future column, we will contact you. No photos can be returned and no purchase of items will occur.

(Barbara Eash is a member of the Certified Appraisers Guild of America, specializing in appraisals of antiques and collectibles and has extensive experience writing and speaking about antiques.)



How to get YOUR news in The Freeman

The Freeman wants your community news! We will publish the happenings at your schools and community groups – as well as everyday items – in this space on Page 2. But we need your help to get these announcements and pictures published. Submissions must be typed or emailed. No handwritten submissions will be accepted. Please send news items and photos to: news@conley.net

Hartland's Hometown Celebration

Thank You Sponsors

Hartland's Hometown Celebration Parade

The annual Hometown Celebration Parade could not continue without the financial contributions of our sponsors. The Hometown Celebration Committee would like to thank the following contributors for their continued support of this local event.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Hartland Hometown Celebration Committee Members: Darlene Igl, Parade Coordinator, Dave Felkner, Kelli Yogerst, Dave Cox, Ken Ziliisch, John Taylor, Nancy Pirkey and Rosario Collura. The Parade Committee would also like to thank the Hartland Department of Public Works, Recreation Department, Police Department, Cable TV and the Parade Commentators, Jeff Schwager and Randy Swenson for their continued help and assistance with Hartland's Hometown Celebration along with Ben Nelson's videography.

Thank you to the Hartland Village Board for their continued support of the Hartland's Hometown Celebration Parade and Fireworks Display!

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Creating a ripple effect to help others

Kayak 4 a Cure raises funds and awareness for people with spinal cord injuries

By Rebecca Seymour
Special to the Enterprise

OCONOMOWOC — A group of 120 kayakers dipped their paddles into the crystal clear waters of Oconomowoc's Fowler Lake on June 24 to help support the Bryon Riesch Paralysis Foundation's 4th annual Kayak 4 a Cure.

Established in 2001, the Waukesha-based nonprofit organization has raised more than \$4 million to help fund research and support individuals suffering from paralysis due to spinal cord injury and other neurological disorders.

Overall, the event raised more than \$12,000 this year.

Kayak 4 a Cure was founded by Jason Hall as a fun way to raise money and awareness for the Bryon Riesch Paralysis Foundation, as well as provide an opportunity for people with paralysis to safely get out on the water in adaptive kayaks.

The Milwaukee Chapter of Team River Runner helped provide the specially modified kayaks so that seven people with spinal cord injuries were able to join in, right along with the large group of paddlers, as they made their way across Fowler Lake, up the Oconomowoc River to Oconomowoc Lake and back.

"It was an amazing day! We got everyone in the water and we all had a great time. Not only did we have a record-breaking amount of kayakers, we also had about 30 people on land supporting us. I know we more than met our goal of raising \$12,000," said Hall.

Sherper's of Oconomowoc partnered with Kayak 4 a Cure, providing 45 kayaks free of charge for participants to use during the fundraiser.

"This is an awesome event and it's really cool that we can be involved and partner with this organization. It really means a lot to the individuals who can now participate in this sport with modi-



Rebecca Seymour/Special to the Freeman

The 4th annual Kayak 4 a Cure brought 120 kayakers onto Oconomowoc's Fowler Lake on June 24. Kayak 4 a Cure was founded by Oconomowoc native Jason Hall, pictured left in red kayak, as a fun way to raise money and awareness for the Bryon Riesch Paralysis Foundation, as well as provide an opportunity for people with paralysis to safely get out on the water in adaptive kayaks. Sherper's of Oconomowoc partnered with Kayak 4 a Cure, providing 45 kayaks free of charge for participants to use during the fundraiser.

fied kayaks and we're so glad we can be a part of it," said Nate Sherper.

Mullen's Dairy Bar of Watertown also set up a tent near the boat launch offering complimentary ice cream to Kayak 4 a Cure supporters and Kunde Healthcare Services sponsored pizza and beverages at Rosati's to cap off the successful event.

"I'm so grateful to everyone who helped me get on the water with a kayak for the very first time. I wouldn't be able to do it otherwise and it showed me what's possible," said Debi Schwid of Milwaukee.

Lifting others up

Hall grew up in Oconomowoc and graduated from OHS in 1994. A diving accident in 1995 when he was a college freshman at LaCrosse left him paralyzed from the chest down.

Today, Hall is the marketing and fulfillment services representative at Pantheon Industries, a nonprofit organization located in Oconomowoc and New Berlin which creates employ-

ment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

"The biggest thing for me is the support of my family and friends and it's important for me to help support other people with spinal cord injuries. It's pretty cool to see all the kayakers in the water and people will realize what we can do together," he added.

The joy that Hall and his wife, Cheri, their families, friends and many other volunteers shared during Kayak 4 a Cure was contagious as sounds of laughter shared between paddlers floated across the waters of Fowler Lake.

"Events like this help us get closer and closer to finding a cure for paralysis," said Janet Curtis, development director for the Bryon Riesch Paralysis Foundation. "When I see all the phenomenal support we have for Jason and people in wheelchairs I really feel blessed."

For more information about the BRPF, including upcoming events, visit www.brpf.org.

Local school districts eyeing up trauma care training, kits

Positively Pewaukee behind drive for 200 kits for schools

By Ashley Haynes
ahaynes@conley.net.com
262-513-2681

PEWAUKEE — Positively Pewaukee, a nonprofit with the goal of making Pewaukee a premiere destination, has taken on the mission of fundraising \$26,000 for lifesaving trauma kits. The price tag would cover 200 kits, one for every Pewaukee School District classroom, at \$130 per kit.

The kits, which include equipment like tourniquets and pressure bandages, will be purchased to

align with trauma care and bleeding control training set to take place in 2018 with all Pewaukee School District staff.

"Our full staff will be trained for the first time this fall," said Superintendent Mike Cady. "We do train all of our staff on CPR and AED (automated external defibrillator) when they are hired, but this will be a new level of training."

Cady explained that there will also be a refresher to the trauma care training all district staff members receive later on in the year. The training will be given in partnership with the Pewaukee Fire Department and Pewaukee Police Department, and it will follow Tactical Emergency Casualty Care guidelines.

With the help of these partners, the Pewaukee School District was able to

select the trauma kit that will work best for it.

Positively Pewaukee will be handling the donations and will purchase the kits for the school. If you would like to purchase a kit, send a check to: Positively Pewaukee, 120 W. Wisconsin Ave., Pewaukee, WI 53072.

For more information, email Elaine Kroening at elaine@positivelypewaukee.com.

All donations are tax-deductible.

Pewaukee isn't the only school district eyeing up such equipment.

In the Oconomowoc Area School District, First Bank Financial Centre has donated \$1,200 in support of Stop The Bleed triage kits. The money is also set to be used for kits district-wide.

More information on OASD's triage kits is slated to be unveiled this fall.

Submit your event for the Fall Fun Guide!

Calling all area organizations with special fall events planned. The Freeman is compiling its annual Fall Fun Guide. Events from Labor Day through Thanksgiving can be submitted to news@conley.net.com.

Include "Fall Fun Guide Event" in subject line. Be sure to include the name of event, time and date it will be held, the location and website or phone number for more information. Some event suggestions include art shows, church and community festivals, craft fairs, farmer's markets, theater and music concerts.

Deadline for submissions is Friday, August 3

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Lake Country Children’s Theater offers enrichment for kids and adults

By Chris Bennett
Special to The Freeman

TOWN OF MERTON — A miracle occurs among a small band of children and adults each summer in Lake Country.

It sounds as though it’s the plot of a fantastic play or stage production. If that’s where your mind wandered, it didn’t wander far from the truth.

Nicole Johnson is amazed that the children of Lake Country, along with some committed and talented adults, stage a play from the ground up in one week each summer.

Johnson is the board president of the Lake Country Children’s Theater. She said the LCCT stages its whirlwind of a play each summer in collaboration with the Prairie Fire Children’s Theatre, which is based in Barrett, Minn.

A summer adventure

Earlier this summer, the LCCT staged “The Wizard of Oz” at Arrowhead High School’s North Campus Theater in the Town of Merton. Auditions took place on a Monday. Those selected to grace the stage practiced Tuesday through Friday and then staged performances on Friday and Sunday.

“It was a lot of fun,” Johnson said. “The directors who lead the shows know what they’re doing to lead kids. They manage a cast of anywhere from 50 to 75 kids, and they do it brilliantly.”

“They get a lot of confidence by being able to be on stage. The shows are set up in a way that they can learn the show and perform it in a week.”

Prairie Fire’s collaboration with the LCCT dates to 1997. “Pinocchio”, “Beauty & the Beast”, “Tom Sawyer”, “Snow White”, “Cinderella”, “Jack and the Beanstalk”, “Peter Pan”, “Robin Hood”, and “Alice in Wonderland” are among the productions presented over the years.



Submitted photo

Lake Country Children’s Theater cast members perform “The Wizard of Oz.”

Dedication to theater, art

The LCCT does not exist to shine just one week each summer. According to its website, the organization grew out of some talk in 1983 among some theater aficionados who wanted to help children foster an appreciation for theater and its related arts.

The stated goals of the LCCT are to increase awareness of and appreciation of the fine arts among adults and children of the Lake Country area; to coordinate an annual season of theater experiences; and to develop expanded theater programming for skill development.

Johnson said she’s served as board president for about one year and counts five years of involvement with the theater company. Her oldest daughter has been in LCCT productions for about five years.

Upcoming productions

The LCCT offers three children-friendly plays each season.

On Nov. 3 the theater department from University of Wisconsin-Whitewater will stage “Devon’s Hurt.” Devon is an 8-year-old boy in the midst of a bad day that keeps getting worse. The play touches on how to deal with feelings, resolve conflict and become someone’s friend.

On Feb. 23 of next year

ArtsPower National Touring Theatre, which is based in Cedar Grove, N.J., will present “Madeline and The Bad Hat.” The play is based on the children’s book of the same name by Ludwig Bemelmans. Madeline is forced to deal with a new, unruly neighbor in a young boy named Pepito in the story and play.

Johnson said the LCCT is finalizing the third play of its upcoming season, and details will be forthcoming. Ticket information is available on the LCCT’s website, www.lakecountrychildrenstheater.org.

In the near future, the LCCT will be holding its Summer Improv Boot Camp. All camps are at Lake Country School, 1800 Vettleson Road in Hartland.

The cost of each camp is \$40. The camp on July 21 is for those in third through fifth grade and the camp on July 28 is for students in the sixth through eighth grades. The camp on Aug. 11 is for high-schoolers.

Each workshop begins at 10 a.m. and concludes at 7:30 p.m. The house opens at 6 p.m. and a show that displays the day’s work begins at 6:30 p.m.

Johnson said the LCCT is always looking for more members of its board and help is always needed to stage theater of the quality expected from the LCCT. Call 262-361-3422 for more information.

CITY OF PEWAUKEE

SkipperBud’s donates pontoon for Badges and Buddies program

By Brandon Anderegg
banderegg@conley.net
262-513-2657

CITY OF PEWAUKEE — Boat dealer SkipperBud’s donated a pontoon boat to the City of Pewaukee Badges and Buddies program, said Todd Rieper, SkipperBud’s regional vice president.

Rieper said SkipperBud’s views the program as a great way to get people involved in boating. He also said the company enjoys getting involved because the program is a real positive for the community. This is the second time SkipperBud’s has donated a boat to Badges and Buddies, Rieper said.

“It’s a really good program

and we’d like to keep it going,” Rieper said. “It keeps the kids involved in a positive manner with the police department and enjoying an activity that we’re involved with, which is boating.”

Badges and Buddies is a City of Pewaukee program that connects kids with local law enforcement to create positive learning experiences while fishing, bowling and archery shooting, said Waukesha Sheriff’s Department Lt. Brian Ripplinger.

Deputies also add to the experience by guiding children in the safe use of equipment while educating them about the importance and benefits of conservation as a

tool to promote the health of resources and wildlife.

The program also connects local businesses with law enforcement, which gives them the opportunity to discuss and answer questions about police services in the community.

Ripplinger said the program was an extension of a previous program that existed in 2010 when the city had a police department. He’s looking forward to the Badges and Buddies community event on August 8 in Nettesheim Park, he said.

“We occasionally get Flight for Life to come,” Ripplinger said. “So they land in the park and the kids can tour the helicopter.”



Photo courtesy of Delafield Chamber of Commerce

Delafield chamber welcomes Beer Snobs

DELAFIELD — The Delafield Chamber of Commerce recently welcomed Hartland business Beer Snobs Ale & Eats as a new member. Beer Snobs Ale & Eats, 122 Cottonwood Ave., serves a selection of craft beers and food in a fun and friendly atmosphere.

Pictured from left are: Dr. Brandon Meyer, DC, Lake Country Health Center — Dr. Daniel Murray & Associates; Samantha Parent, Delafield Brewhaus; Scott Steinhorst, Wintrust; Steve Berger, owner of Beer Snobs; Jeff Stoll, Stolley’s Hogg Alley; Clark Chiaverotti, State Farm agent; and Nick Sanders, Revere’s Wells Street Tavern.

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