

What's Up in Shell Lake! Mayor's Corner

Happy March! Hopefully all of the frigid cold weather is now behind us, and we can start to think about warmer weather ahead. It is the month when Spring arrives after all, and begins March 20th, so perhaps we may see some relief! Maybe even see some flowers pop out of the ground. Seems preposterous as the temp are in the negative numbers as I type this....but never give up hope right?

Our First Winter Festival has come and gone...boy what a blast it was! We could not have asked for a better day...a truly beautiful Winter Wonderland, with kids and adults enjoying the great outdoors, and all it has to offer. How lucky are we to live in this part of the country where friends and neighbors can gather, fish, play pond hockey, roast hotdogs, drink hot chocolate and embrace the beauty around us!! The big fireplace in the Beach House was lit and was all aglow. We actually had folks, who have lived here in Shell Lake all their lives, tell us that have never seen that fireplace lit! One lucky person caught a 19-inch Walleye at one of the fishing huts. They had pictures to prove it, so it wasn't a fish tale.

When planning this event, we kind of went with the idea of "if you build it they will come" ...WELL, they came alright! WE were hoping for 100 people, but the best estimate was well over 300 people came to play! This was all made possible with help from some of the people on the City Council, The Shell Lake Chamber, neighbors, friends...all willing to do what it takes to make the Winter Fest happen.

Shell Lake State Bank gave us a generous cash donation, EconoMart Food store in Spooner donated 100 hotdogs and hot dog buns, and Ben Grazen, who donated all the split firewood we needed. Bear Lake Coffee Company in Barronett, treated us with fresh brewed coffee, and Latte's to boot.

And last but not least, a HUGE THANK YOU to all the guys who have been making the beautiful ice out on the lake. It is a very laborious work of love to do this, with flooding the rink, brooming it, flooding it again, sweeping it, flooding it again.... all for the enjoyment for those who wish to skate on our lake and enjoy our great Wisconsin Winters. These guys who have been doing all this work, don't want to be called out by name so I will honor their request. But THANK YOU for doing this for our community, people have been just loving it, and have actually come into City Hall to thank us as well. Again, how lucky are we!!

Now that Winter Fest is over, please feel free to continue to skate on the ponds down by the beach. The hope is to continue to keep these rinks up and in skating condition for about another month. Remember, we have lights at night, so if you choose to skate at night under the stars, the opportunity is there for you, enjoy it while you can.

With St. Patrick's Day coming up soon, many of us may be familiar with the phrase "luck of the Irish", but perhaps don't know its origins and true meaning. The story goes that the term dates back to the 19th century gold rush in western United States. Many of the successful

miners were Irish immigrants or Irish Americans, working hard to make their fortune. So hopefully you find a four-leaf clover, for it is known as a lucky find and are considered to be good luck charms.

There is a change in my office hours. I will now be in the office on Tuesday's and Friday's, instead of Wednesday's and Friday's. Same hours 0800-1200, or later if needed. Again, please feel free to stop by anytime, my door is always open, would love to see you!

Dates to remember:

March 5th Ash Wednesday

9th Daylight Savings Time

10th City Council Meeting at 7:00 PM

17th St. Patrick's Day

20th First Day of Spring

Enjoy the coming of Spring! Spring is a reminder to us all that every end marks a new beginning. As the snow melts, and flowers bloom, we are invited to shed our old layers and unleash our full potential. Let the warmth of spring ignite your passions, revive your dreams, and nurture your growth!

What will you plant, nurture, and harvest in this new season?

Take Care!