

Mayor's Corner

What's Up in Shell Lake?

WOWSER....July sure was a busy month, with lots of WINS for us. The Art Festival, at the last minute had to be moved inside, but it just put a little crimp in the show. Many art fair lovers attended, and walked away with beautiful works of art, despite the weather. Next year the Art Festival will fall on the 4th of July!

The Great Shell Lake Get Together was on the 20th, and again, we were blessed with a beautiful day at the park. We are guessing that we had about 460 people this year that attended. The park was full of laughter, smiles, and people reconnecting with people from the community. I actually heard one fellow state "hey I haven't seen you since the last picnic"! We have so many people to thank who made this possible. Besides all of the hard-working volunteers of the City of Shell Lake and Lion members, we had huge donations to make this all possible. **I would like to thank Shell Lake State Bank; Sawyer Creek Cattle Company; Shell Lake Chamber; Shell Lake Lions; Louie's Fine Meats of Cumberland; Schmitz's Economart in Spooner; and Republic Services....all of these places were awesome when asked what they could do to help make this picnic happen!**

On Saturday, July 26th, the Lion's held their 13th Annual Triathlon/Duathlon right here in Shell Lake. A couple of new fun things were added this year to the event. The Lions engaged the city, and the Chamber to help put this behemoth event together. Plus there was an awards ceremony, and the Laughing Goat Food truck. They had record numbers of participants who came to Shell Lake to show what they can do! There were 154 registered athletes, who swam, biked and ran along the beautiful countryside, and down the ATV trails, while being greeted by cheering fans along the way. The athletes crossed the finish line, exhausted but triumphant, and they celebrated their achievement and the support of the crowd! It was so fun to see and feel the excitement of everyone involved, the hugs, and congratulatory high fives. it was is a exhilarating experience for both the athletes and the spectators. There was a sure sign of community spirit! Nicely done Lions!! Next year's event will be on July 24th...just giving you plenty of time to train!!

The Art's Center is excited to announce their 5th Annual Northwoods Ukelele Festival which takes place on Saturday August 23rd at the Shell Lake Arts Center. This event is a FREE, fun filled day of music and education for everyone to enjoy. Kicks off at 10:00 with a short class for beginners, followed by a sing-along with the local ukulele group. At 1100, the renowned folk artist Lil' Rev as a "Jewish Pete Seeger". He has been called "Wisconsin's treasure" and has received numerous awards, including Best Folksinger and National Blues Harmonica Champion. At 1:00 p.m. there will be a lively performance by the Strum brothers, and at 4:30 the festival

moves to the Shell Lake Beach Pavilion for a beachside jam with Lil Rev. Food will be available, being sponsored by the Spooner area Youth Hockey Association. The event concludes at 7:30pm. Sounds like a lot of fun, and terrific music...so if you are around on the 23rd, be sure and put these folks on your schedules.

Yup...Labor Day is just around the corner...can hardly believe it. The Chamber is having a great event to help you celebrate the end of summer. From Friday August 29-31, they will be having their 46th Annual Town and Country Days! There are so many events that will be taking place during these days that I can't even begin to list them all! Just be sure and go on their website, as well as the cities website and take a look at what they will be offering. There is something offered for young and old alike.

In fact, the whole Labor Day weekend is packed with activities through out the city. Just to name a few is the Shell Lake Lion's Fish Fry which takes place on Friday the 29th at the Community Center serving from 4:00pm to 7:00pm This is fresh fish, caught the same day in Lake Superior. A great dinner with all the fixings! Take out is available. Then on the 30th, is the Pancake breakfast at the Shell Lake municipal airport which starts at 7:30 and serves until 11:00. This is really a fun event, you get to watch various planes land and take off while you eat your pancakes and drink your coffee. It's super fun!

So just to put this all in order for you, events coming up are as follows:

August 11th City Council Meeting @7:00pm City Hall

August 23rd Shell Lake Art Center 5th Annual Northwoods Ukelele Festival

August 28-31st Chamber of Commerce Town and Country Days

August 29th Shell Lake Lions Club Fish Fry serving from 4-7pm Community Center

August 30th Pancake Breakfast at the Shell Lake Airport from 7:30-1100

In closing, I am compelled to mention a community response. I am sure many of you have heard about the unfortunate fire that happened at the Lakeland Manor here in Shell Lake. It was really a scary time for the residents, fearful of the unknown, having to leave their homes with just what was on their backs. I can't say enough about this wonderful city of Shell Lake. The community response to the Lakeland Manor fire has been remarkable. Although the building was shut down for about a week, the outpouring of support from locals is evident in the way they came to give of their time, food, transportation, clothing, and housing. People just came forward with "what can we do to help" before we could even get the word out there of the needs of the residents that were displaced. It's heartening to see the people of Shell Lake rallying around each other, it truly demonstrates our capacity to come together in times of need. I have always thought this was a remarkable city to live in, now I can say that I witnessed the generosity and kindness of this city called Shell Lake.

Take care...and always be humble and kind!

