

Moose Lake News by

Jim Onarheim

On Saturday August 1st the Round Lake Fire Department will be holding their annual Fire Fest at Louie's Landing. The purpose of the annual fund raiser is to raise financial funds to help support the fire department so they can purchase needed equipment that is not paid for through its annual budget. Christina owner of Christina's Y-Pines informed me that her and her husband Vaughn have many Bucket Raffles available for people to purchase tickets for. All money that is taken in will be donated to the Fire Fest. There are many prizes in each bucket for people to win. Shen is inviting customers to stop in and purchase as many tickets as they want up until August 1st which is the date that the drawing will take place. A reminder that Christina's Y-Pines will be closed on Sunday July 26th. I personally would like to thank Christina and Vaughn for their donation of time and prizes that were either bought or donated for the Bucket Raffles. If anyone would like to purchase Raffle tickets for the Big Money Raffle which has a pay out of \$3000- \$2000- and \$1000 dollars you can get in touch with me. Tickets sell for \$20 each. You need not be present to win any of the three money amount prizes. If you are interested in tickets please give me a call, text me or e-mail me at my e-mail address of emta984@gmail.com or call my landline at 715-462-4448 or my cell at 715-577-8880.

As most of you know by now, the Canadian government and area firefighters have been fighting one of the largest numbers of forest fires that are burning in Ontario. The latest count from this past weekend was 955 fires.

Many readers may remember the two articles I wrote about my spring fishing trips that I took to my close friend Mike Henry's Pipestone Fly-In Outposts. Mike's 6 fly-in camps are in Wabakimi Provincial Park, where all his camps are on six different lakes. This past week, all six camps were threatened by fire, and Mike feared he might lose at least half of them. A year ago, he built a new cabin on Rock Cliff Lake. This cabin has a full solar power system and internet service throughout the camp. When this story went to press, Mike still did not know which cabins, if any, had been lost, but he was hoping for the best. Last Friday, he flew toward the camps to see whether he could assess the possible damage from the air. The smoke was so bad it forced him to turn around and return to his air base. The major fires burning today are now located in the park. Wind plays a major role in fighting them. Sometimes a forest fire will generate its own wind.

Smoke blankets US, alerts issued across east. Ontario premier links forest-clearing constraints to US softwood lumber tariffs. Ford says there are 'no limits' on spending to protect Canadians from forest fires

July 18 (Reuters) - Ontario Premier Doug Ford said U.S. criticism of Canadian efforts to stop the "terrible scenario" of spreading forest fires in his province and choking smoke across a broad swath of the United States was "absolutely unacceptable."

"We're trying to get through this," Ford said on Saturday, adding that if the situation were reversed and the U.S. were facing wildfires, "we're going to be down there to support our neighbors."

The federal Natural Resources Department said on Saturday 69 new fires were reported overnight in Canada, raising the total to 955.

The total area burned is almost 11,000 square miles (28,500 square km), well below the five-year average. But winds have carried the smoke south of the Canada-U.S. border, prompting authorities to issue air quality alerts and health warnings in parts of the United States.

As of 8 a.m. ET (1200 GMT), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's AirNow site rated the air quality as "unhealthy" in an area including southern Ontario, eastern areas of Ohio and West Virginia, most of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, much of Virginia and all of Maryland, Delaware and Washington, D.C.

Parts of western Pennsylvania, including Pittsburgh, were rated "very unhealthy." AirNow predicted that the air quality in those areas would improve during the day.

Wildfire activity in Ontario has started to slow over the last 24 hours and "much more favorable weather" is expected over the next few days, according to Mike Harris, the Canadian province's natural resources minister.

I was asked by my friend Mike to research the possibility of installing an outside sprinkler system to protect his cabins in the future. As most of you may know I have spent 52 years in the fire service in Wisconsin. I was a strong advocate in installing sprinkler systems in Commercial and residential buildings during my career. I have already started making phone calls about installing a system like an agricultural irrigation system. This Fire / water pump will be supplied with propane and run for days without being refueled. Four sprinkler heads should protect the average sized cabin. 1500 -2000 square feet.

Birthday greetings this week go out to Dorothea Haegle, Gary Johnson and Ben Niemann all three have their birthdays on the 23rd. Joyce Zubrod on the 25th, Jen Carlson on the 28th, Julie Mack on the 29th, Don Friedrich the 30th of July. August 1st, we have two Birthdays, Vickie Palya and Esper Lueschen. On August 3rd, Happy Birthday to Paulette Ross. Happy Birthday to all of you. Happy Anniversary to Gil and Betty Krohn on July 28th.

Stay safe everyone and enjoy our beautiful weather. Please send your items of interest to my e-mail address at emta984@gmail.com or call my landline at 715-462-4448 or my cell at 715-577-8880. Moose Lake Improvement association website is <http://mliahaywardwi.org> The Town of Round Lake Web site is <https://www.townofroundlakewi.org> and the Round Lake Fire Department website is <https://townofroundlakefire-rescue.org>. JO