

Moose Lake News

By Jim Onaheim

The Fire Danger in the Hayward area has increased. As of this past Sunday, the Fire Danger has gone up to Very High. Early Sunday morning May 3rd there were no wildfires burning in the state of Wisconsin, but by 3 PM there were four fires that had started in our state. The closest fire to us this past weekend was in Douglas County. I have no more information on this fire. No outside burning can be done at this time.

The wildfire risk in Wisconsin is currently elevated due to abundant and dense fuel loads, such as downed trees and brush. Fire control officials are concerned about this increased risk, and additional fire restrictions may be in effect to ensure public and firefighter safety.

To stay informed, you can monitor fire danger ratings, which are based on weather conditions and landscape changes. Check the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for updates on burning restrictions and wildfire activity!

DNR officials noted springtime marks the most critical season for fires in Wisconsin, as the warm, windy weather can cause fires to get out of control. Wisconsin DNR reports 283 wildfires have burned so far this year, scorching through 704 acres of land. The state's map of current fire conditions shows as of Monday May 4th the northern half of Wisconsin has a very high fire danger. This includes Sawyer County. Because of the conditions, the DNR is putting a ban on burning with all DNR-issued permits. The DNR is asking people in Wisconsin to be careful when operating off-road vehicles or equipment. Be sure to secure any dragging trailer safety chains that can create sparks. If a fire does happen, call 911 as soon as possible. The DNR said the high fire danger will last until there is significant rainfall.

Over the Weekend Sawyer County experienced hosting the Wisconsin Governors Fishing opener. The Fishing opener was held on Nelson Lake. This year our Governor Tony Evers was on hand Fishing with a guide trying to catch his first fish of the season. Rumor has it that he caught a Northern Pike.

Also, on Saturday there was a nice attendance at the City of Hayward Beach Park on Lake Hayward. This was a Family fishing day that started at 10 AM and went until 2 PM. There were several people helping the young children learn how to fish. There were many displays set up including a Fish tank that the DNR had with live fish on display. I saw a nice-sized Northern Pike in the tank. This created a lot of interest for the many young children that were present. DNR staff measured any fish that were caught so the children could see how big they were. SCOPE Sawyer County Outdoor Projects and Education had a casting game set up for the kids. I had the opportunity to help two small brothers learn how to cast. The two boys and their parents were from Nekoosa, Wisconsin. They were casting down by the lake. The younger brother who was

about 5 years old told me he was trying to catch a weed that was floating on the top of the water. The father told me he just joined the volunteer Fire Department in their town. He and I got along very well trading stories about his department and The Round Lake Fire Department that I belong to.

Last week on Thursday April 30th our pool league finished the year with a year-end pool party at Y-Pines Bar and restaurant. The pool party was organized by Christina Christison who cooked a nice meal for all of us. She put together a meal that was wonderful. After the meal if you did not get filled up it was your fault, because there was plenty of food. After we had our meal, we started a double elimination pool tournament. This was an eight-contestant tournament. Double elimination means pool players must lose two games to be eliminated from competition. As things went, it came down to three of us playing for either first second or third place. I was one of them. When it was over I received third place, Bruce Vanfleet second and Dan Resh took First place. It was a lot of fun playing a different game of pool. We did not play with a partner; it was just one against one. We now will have to wait until this coming fall to play again. Thanks to everyone for showing up and a Big Thank You to Christina and Vaughn Christison for their hospitality and wonderful meal that they served.

Birthday wishes this week are sent to Patrick Syslo and Tom Thara both on the 8th of May. Alexandria Sanders on the 10th, Denise Johansen Melhus on the 13th, Sharon Streiter on the 15th, Forrest Woodsy Melhus and Mary Dombeck both have birthdays on the 16th. Our last birthday this week is Carrie Jo Obrien on May 19th. Happy Birthday to all of you.

There are three anniversaries this week for area couples that we would like to recognize. On May 7th Patrick and Mary Syslo will celebrate 55 years of marriage together. On May 19th Don Friedrich and Jackie Mann have their anniversary along with Derek and Carla Sorenson on the same date. Happy anniversary to all of you.

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