

Moose Lake News

By Jim Onarheim

On Saturday afternoon the 2nd of March Christina's Y-Pines had a going away party for Ryan Ross. Ryan is the son of Jerry Ross. Ryan has been in the Marines since he was 17 years old and is getting deployed again to Kuwait. Kuwait is located on the NW coast of the Persian Gulf. It has a population of approximately 3,900,000 people. Ryan has been in the military for over 25 years and has been on several missions overseas.

There were well over 100 people that showed up to show support for Ryan. The party started at 4 PM and was still going strong when I left at 6 PM. A large variety of food was served to all in attendance. It was fun to see so many Moose Lakers in attendance. Good thing it was a beautiful day with very warm temperatures because the front door of the bar was left open to accommodate the large group of friends which expanded outside onto the front deck. Ryan's father Jerry showed up for a brief period. As most of you know Jerry is fighting some health problems so he is limited in what he can do. We all wish Ryan the best with his 10-month deployment. We will see you back in Moose Lake next Christmas Ryan.

Pool League last Thursday the 29th of February had 6 teams playing with 12 players. The games started at 6:30 and things ended at 10:30. Snacks were served along with some good socializing between players. An incredibly fun night like always. When things were over Brad Daywitt and his partner Vaughn Christison took home the first-place prize. Second place went to Mike Williams and Dane Resh. The TP award was won by Scott Gilkey and Christina Christison.

Continuing with the 25 Home hazards that could burn down your house.

#14 Leaving Candles Unattended: Candles add ambiance and aroma to a home's interior, but their soft glow can grow into a blaze if they are left to burn unsupervised. It only takes seconds for a dog to knock a votive over, or for a draft to fan a flame and ignite fabrics nearby. Always keep lit candles in sight and away from pets, children, and flammable materials. Before leaving the room, use a snuffer to completely extinguish candles.

#15 Smoking or Vaping Indoors: Cigarettes, pipes, and other smoking materials sparked around 7,900 home fires in 2020; careless smoking practices indoors are all too often to blame. The embers of an improperly extinguished cigarette can interact with newspapers or other nearby flammable items and start a fire. Smoking in bed can cause bedding to go up in flames, especially if the smoker accidentally dozes off while puffing. To avoid a visit from the fire department, only smoke outside, and be sure to dispose of ashes and butts in an ashtray or bucket of sand and wet them before tossing them in the trash. Lest you think that vaping eliminates fire risk, think again. E-cigarettes can explode, most likely due to problems with their batteries. Always replace batteries that get damaged or wet, keep loose batteries in a case so they do not touch metal objects, and charge your vaping device only during the day and with the charger that came with it (not with a tablet or phone charger).

#16 Stepping Away From the Stove: You might think you have enough time to get the laundry out before the onions on the stove brown but resist the urge to leave the kitchen while the stove is on. A small flame can turn into a conflagration in less than 30 seconds, so stay in the kitchen and your eyes on the stove. There are ways to reduce the likelihood of cooking fires: Never place flammables like potholders or kitchen towels on or near the stove. Be aware that some oils (such as avocado oil) have a higher

smoke point than others. And if you must step away while cooking, turn off the stove before doing so; the burner will not take as long as you think to reheat.

#17 Overlooking Loose-Fitting Plugs: If plugs do not seem to stay put in one of your electrical outlets, the metal contact points in the receptacle have likely deteriorated and no longer allow for a secure connection. Continuing to use the shoddy outlet with the missed connection could ignite a spark and cause a house fire as the current moves across air gaps, a phenomenon known as “arcing.” For peace of mind, call an electrician right away to replace the at-risk receptacle.

#18 Not Leaving Enough Clearance Around Heaters. Space heaters that keep you toasty when the duvet alone does not cut it join wood stoves as the culprits in 74 percent of fire-related deaths. When placed too close to other combustible items, those heaters can get too hot to handle—so hot, in fact, that they can catch fire. Only use space heaters that shut off automatically when they’re knocked over. Situate them at least three feet from anything flammable, be it clothing, paper, or bedding.

NOTE: Sawyer County lost a male resident last week in a fire that possible started from an electric heater that was too close to combustibles.

#19 Leaving Crumbs in the Toaster: Every time you toast bread or bagels in the toaster, they shed crumbs that fall into the bottom of the appliance. During the next toasting cycle, these same crumbs can heat up and catch fire, and your toaster, along with the kitchen, could, well, be toast. If your toaster has a removable crumb tray, regularly unplug, and cool down the toaster, take out and empty the tray, and wash it with warm soapy water to prevent crumb buildup. If the unit does not have a crumb tray, unplug it, and gently tip over and shake it to get rid of most of the crumbs.

#20 Piling up Dirty Rags: A wood stain can bestow the perfect finishing touch on a DIY furniture project. But later on, that pile of oil-soaked rags you tossed in the corner could trigger the perfect storm: Left unattended, those rags are a very real fire hazard, as they could oxidize and spontaneously combust, causing a house fire. To dispose of oily cloths properly, place them in a metal can that’s been filled with water, and cover it with a tight-fitting lid, or lay them flat outside to dry. If you must wash reusable rags, be sure to wash them thoroughly—at least twice—and hang them to dry. If they need to go in the dryer instead, use the lowest possible setting.

Because of space this week, the remaining five fire safety tips will be in next week’s article.

This week I am in Milwaukee for the annual Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Sport Show. The show will be at State Fair Park in West Allis. It starts on March 7 and ends on Sunday March 10. I am looking forward to going to the show to promote our beautiful area, Hayward Area Lakes. I have a lot of Vacation Guides to pass out, so I hope the crowds are exceptionally large each day.

One birthday I missed in last week’s news was Patty Pearson on March 5th. I am sorry Patty. Birthday greetings this week are extended to David Sloten on the 10th of March. Tom Off and Larry Fullington both have birthdays on the 11th of the month and Audrey Pearson has her birthday on the 13th. Happy birthday to all of you. There are two anniversaries this week, both are on the 9th of March. Bill and Sally Carlson along with John and Linda Myhre. The Myhres will celebrate 50 years of marriage on the 9th.

Enjoy yourself this week with some beautiful weather. Stay safe everyone and enjoy your week. Please send your items of interest to my new e-mail address emta984@gmail.com or call my landline at 715-

462-4448 or my cell at 715-577-8880. Moose Improvement association website is <http://mliahaywardwi.org> The Town of Round Lake Web site is <https://www.townofroundlakewi.org> and the NEW Round Lake Fire Department web-site is <https://townofroundlakefire-rescue.org>