

## Moose Lake News by Jim Onarheim

Things cooled off last week and so did the fishing. I talked to a few people that were out fishing and all they said was, the fishing was tough and when the wind blew it was cold. This week looks as though it should be warming up towards the end of the week, making it more enjoyable when we are out there. One friend of mine did catch just one smallmouth Bass while fishing Moose Lake.

So far everyone has been doing good as far as fire prevention toward wildland fires in our area. Although, I hope I am not talking to soon. What we have had in the area has been controlled quickly and has been small. Keep up the good work neighbors. If we get some more rain this week it should help to green things up.

I am sure everyone has heard enough about COVID-19. Here is one thing that I would like to share with everyone. The State of Wisconsin has chosen Hayward to be the location for a piece of Federally Funded coronavirus De-contamination equipment that is designed to decontaminate the N-95 respirator mask and some clothing.

The State of Wisconsin called Pat Sanchez our Emergency Government director in early March to see if she would be interested in accepting and getting individuals together that could be trained to run this piece of equipment.

Pat talked to Don Hamblin the Fire Chief for the town of Hayward about possible placing this equipment at the Town of Hayward Fire Station. Don showed much interest in helping with this project. Don basically took the ball and ran with it.

This equipment was delivered to the Town of Hayward Fire Station the weekend of April 24<sup>th</sup>. Training was held on Monday April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Fire Station. Training was conducted by George Gruetzmacher who is employed by the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Mr. Gruetzmacher is a Consultant/ Engineer and what I would call an expert on Communicable Disease. I thought the training went very well & was overly impressed with his presentation.

The equipment that was brought to Hayward is Ultraviolet (UV) lighting. The UV lighting is what kills the virus. Like sunlight but a lot stronger. There were about 15 of us that were trained on April 27<sup>th</sup>. On Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup> we had more training amongst ourselves. The equipment is set up inside a metal trailer. The items that we will be decontaminating will be the N-95 mask, which is in short supply, and is awfully expensive to replace. 3-M who make the mask has said as long as the mask is not damaged, it can be cleaned or decontaminated up to 5 times.

On Monday evening May 11 we will be decontaminating our first masks for another agency. We will be decontaminating mask for many hospitals and Ambulance services throughout NW Wisconsin. The next piece of equipment like this is in Green Bay, Milwaukee and Madison. For more information on this, please look for photos that were taken by Terrell Boettcher elsewhere in this week's paper.

When we talk about Face Masks, I think there is a misconception on the type of protection that people get from a mask. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) encourages people to wear a simple face mask to protect other people from your sneeze or cough. This mask should be worn while out in public. This type of mask will give you some protection, but very little from an airborne virus.

There are surgical masks, dust mask, Dental masks & medical procedure masks which are referred to as a simple face mask. These types of masks are not Respirators Masks. A Respirators type mask is the only type of mask that will seal tightly around you face and nose to protect you from airborne contaminates such as COVID-19.

A Face mask is a loosely fitting masks that protects the people around you from your coughs and sneezing. This type of makes that 95% of the people you see today wearing gives you truly little protection from what we breath in. This is not approved as a respirator type mask. The N-95 3-M mask gives you 95 % protection from airborne contaminants. Besides COVID-19 we may have heard about anthrax, tuberculosis & Sars. These are all airborne virus that still be brought into our body especially bey a loose-fitting face mask. A Respirator type mask is designed to seal tightly around our face and hopefully seal out these viruses.

For more information of the difference between a Respirator mask and a simple face mask please take the time to watch the u-tube video link that I have included.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ovSLAuY8ib8>

Birthday greeting this week go out to: Sharon Streiter on the 15<sup>th</sup>, Alan Richter & Mary Dombeck both on the 16<sup>th</sup> and Mark Stuetgen on May 20. Happy Anniversqary to Derek & Carla Sorenson whose anniversary is on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Well that is all we have for this week. Remember if you have any news items please give me a call at 715-462-4448 or send it to me by e-mail at jonarheim@centurytel.net so I can include it in the column. Have a great week enjoy our beautiful spring like weather. Remember, Stay safe!