

## Moose Lake News by Jim Onarheim

I cannot give you any information about the opening morning of the deer gun season because we had an early deadline this week. Our deadline for this week's news was last Friday morning because of the Thanksgiving holiday. What I do know is there were many people in the Moose Lake area last Thursday checking out different deer hunting spots.

My wife Barb hates to see the deer hunting season approach because she knows she will see many deer hanging out of the back many vehicles. She feels this is sad, even though she is an excellent cook and has many good ways of cooking and preparing venison. She realizes that hunting is a way of managing our deer herd which prevents many vehicle collisions. She loves to watch the deer in our back yard as they pass through. We have several bird feeders around our house which attract the bears in the summer and the deer in the winter. We have a small picnic table sitting on our deck within 3 feet of our rear patio doors. We also have several bird feeders of which one is a covered feeder mounted on the railing of our deck which puts it at waist level. We also have a device that I have made for the squirrels which holds 5 cobs of corn. I set this on our picnic table to feed the squirrels. Barb has a good view from her recliner to watch everything that goes on in the back yard. Four days ago, at about sunset Barb watched a yearling deer for about 20 minutes. After the young, little deer snooed around for a few minutes, he got a smell of the corn and bird food on our deck. He went over by the 4 steps that led to the top of our deck. He then hesitated for a few seconds and then walked up the steps unto the deck just like you or I would do. He helped himself to the bird food and 5 cobs of corn like they were meant for him. The squirrels took off and the birds flew to a nearby tree and just watched. They were amazed just like Barb was. After about ten minutes he felt it was time to leave. This little guy found a free meal that he might have to take advantage of again. Two days later the same thing happened again. He came back for a second time. Barb informed me that I was to put this warning in the paper, Warning to all hunters, be careful all deer in our area are infected with COVID do not shoot them. Just kidding obviously.

On Tuesday November 17, the Round Lake and Spider Lake Fire Departments had joint training together at the Round Lake Fire Station located on Hwy A. The training was given by Training Officer Mark Gritzmacher and Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association (CAMBA) representative Jerry Wright. The objective of the training was to educate firefighter's and EMT's different ways of using the Global Position Satellite (GPS) system to be able to help locate injured bicyclist along the CAMBA bike trail. The main trails that are used mostly in the Spider Lake township extending north into Bayfield County. The trail system is 120 miles which is called a single-track system. This means a trail that is approximately 2 feet wide to be used for mountain bikes only. There are more trails that are being worked on all the time. Jerry explained that the trail system has many challenging jumps, curves, and sharp turns. Many areas can cause a possible injury to the novice bicyclist or even the most experienced rider because of the nature of the trail system. One tragic incident that did happen this past fall was the death of Joe Timmerman. He was bicycling on the trail system when he fell from his bike and landed wrong suffering severe injuries. In last week's paper you may have read the article about CAMBA. The most interesting points of interest that I found in the article was the \$7.8 million-dollar economic impact. This was funded in part by a Joint Effort Marketing grant from the Wisconsin Department of Tourism. This is a benefit to NW Wisconsin which includes Bayfield and Sawyer Counties. The CAMBA trail use in 2019

totaled more than 38,000 riders. Hopefully soon, when someone calls 911 from any of our area trails, we should be able to track the call and pinpoint the location of the caller. Many of these trails along with our ATV/ snowmobile & ski trails will eventually have trail markers that the caller can give to our dispatch center. The training that we received last Tuesday evening will also be used for accidents on all our trail systems.

As of this day Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> we have a significant amount snow cover on the ground so burning permits are not required. If you are going to be burning a brush pile which will not produce a large amount of smoke you do not need to call and report your burning. If you plan to burn a large amount of brush that will produce a large amount of smoke, it is advisable to call our dispatch center to inform them of the burning. This is to make your area fire department aware of your control burn. Our Non-emergency number is 715-634-5213. (Note) If we lose our snow cover burning permits will be required.

There is only one birthday this week. Birthday greeting go out to Beth Koontz on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November. There are no anniversaries this week.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. It is great if you can be with your family but please do not take any chances. Make sure everyone is healthy first. Stay Safe!