



Lucette's Gazette



News, updates, and happenings in our Hackensack Lakes Area - August 2021



Sweetheart Days Summer Celebration

by Lisa Garbe

Saturday saw a great turnout for Hackensack's Sweetheart Days Celebration! The day was full of fun activities for everyone. There was a wonderfully diverse group of vendors in the city park and on adjacent corners featuring jewelry, hand-spun wool, lotions and notions (even a goat), and furniture among other things.

We would like to give a shout-out to the Lending Library's Book Sale. The question most asked of us that day was "where's the book sale?" We were so pleased to have authors Julie Jo Larson and Lisa Cassman in Hackensack for the day thanks to the Northwoods Arts Council.

The dachshund races were a huge hit with a very large crowd in attendance. It was so fun to see all the dachshunds come to town bringing their "racing attitude" and creating lots of laughter. You need to be here early next year if you want a front row seat to this event!

Along with all this excitement we had a car/motorcycle show all down First Street. Just like with our vendors, there were many different makes and models of cars/motorcycles on display. It was a great opportunity to appreciate the hard work that goes into restoring and maintaining these autos and bikes and to observe how the automobile has evolved over the decades.

The Josh Duffee Band packed the house as usual, and it was standing room only at the lakefront for their performance! Folks even attended by boat as the weather was perfect for a cruise across the lake.

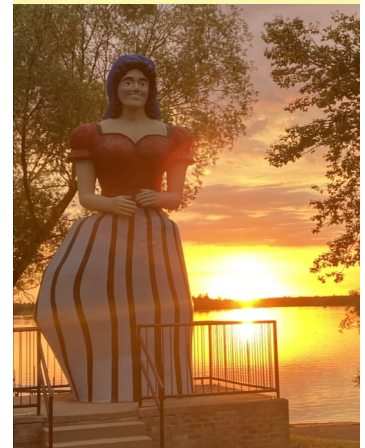
Of course there were food trucks and our wonderful restaurants with tasty offerings and refreshing beer from Rendezvous to keep all our visitors happy and hydrated throughout the day.

People of all ages were out on the street showing off their crazy dancing skills with a good old fashioned street dance in front of the Hackensack Muni with the Zakk Grandahl Band who played a

(Continued on page 2)

What's New

- **Bear Pause Movie Theater** is now open!
- **Construction** has begun on the road and water projects. Scheduled to be completed October 15th. (p.2)
- Northwoods Arts Council **Lakeside Concert Series** continue every Friday night. (p.3)
- **Jo Cornell** is the photo contest winner! (p. 8)



Contents

Construction Update, Pet Parade Recap, 2

Hackensack Happenings: Summer Schedule of Events, 3

Veterans Memorial, Kids Fishing, Cass County Walking Club, 4 Arts & Fun, 5

City Plan Update, Justice Ministry, 6 Get the Lead Out, Lucette to the Fair, 7



Photos courtesy of Pilot Independent



City of Hackensack News

- In the heart of Minnesota's 10,000 lakes. -



Mayor Bill Kennedy

Water Main & Water Tower Project Updates

by Bill Kennedy, Mayor

The water main project started on July 22nd, with the water tower portion to start soon after that. The expected work completion date is October 15, 2021. The work will start on First Street, Murray Ave, and Whipple Ave

and extend into all the other streets affected. There will be intermittent road closures. All businesses will be accessible via sidewalk until it is time to reconstruct those sidewalks, then alternate entrances will be used as available. At all times, there should be a route to get to wherever you need to get to, but you might have to 'go around' to get there.

Everyone who lives or works in an area being impacted by this work wants to know when and how this is going to affect them. Please be patient, aware, safe, and understanding that this is an active construction project that will move and work as best it can to get the job done. There will be some inconveniences, and the public just needs to be aware of that and react accordingly.

Please do not enter the construction zones or try to ask questions of the work crews. If you have specific questions, they should be directed to Amber Muir from Moore Engineering who is the construction liaison. Check for updates on the City website: cityofhackensackmn.org.

Sweetheart Days Summer Celebration

(Continued from page 1)

variety of new and vintage hits of the classic rock/country genre.

The evening was capped off with a fabulous fireworks display! You could hear the "oohs" and the "ahhs" all over town.

This is an annual community event that takes months of planning and many volunteers! Thanks to all those who volunteered to make the day a success, including all the generous sponsors, and of course a thank you to our guests who made the day so spectacular!

First Annual Pet Parade

by Miranda Sater

The First Annual Pet Parade of Hackensack during Sweetheart Days was a success! We had 31 dogs of all sizes and ages, and one chicken that pranced (and clucked) their way down First Street from The Hub to The Legion. Many pets paraded in costume, including a cowboy, unicorn, rocketship, a hot dog, and a few others were rocking our homemade bandanas!

The Dog Park booth was also set up, and we had many visitors who donated and asked many questions about the future Dog Park. We are so excited about the generosity and enthusiasm that many have shown toward building the community dog park. This summer has given us great success in raising awareness and volunteers for our future dog park, and we are pleased to say that we are almost halfway to our goal! Look for our booth at the next Flea Market and at the Art and Book Festival in August!



Photos courtesy of Paws & Claws



Hackensack Happenings

- Providing fun for everyone. -



Authors and Artists Return to Hackensack

by Sue Holthaus, Lynn Van Allen, and Sue Ready

Northwoods Arts Council (NAC) is thrilled that their 26th Annual Art and Book Festival will be held in 2021 on August 14th, Saturday, from 9AM-3PM. This

magical one day event will feature over 30 authors and 60 artists, all sharing their creative work with the Northwoods community.

Authors representing a variety of genres will be selling and signing their books. Featured author Elisa Korenne's presentation "Unfolding Foundation: Finding Inspiration and Renewal Where We Are" is at 11:00 at the UCC Sanctuary, and Julie Jo Larson, author "Why Not? Writing a Travel Book During a Pandemic" is at 1:00 at the UCC Sanctuary.

The NAC strives to bring talented artists to this event, and we will be featuring many new participants this year. Stroll down East Lake Street and view the various mediums of art including watercolors, print makers, metal workers, fiber arts, basket weavers, photographers, jewelry makers, potters, and glass blowers. You will even meet an artist that makes bowls out of paper. There is something for everyone.

An added attraction to the children's art tent will be interactive play appropriate for ages 3-10 with the traveling WonderTrek Children's Museum.

Live music by Wayne and the Boys all day, Rendezvous Brewery, Pies By Guys, food trucks, and kettle corn. You won't go hungry. We even have extra seating this year for seniors and those with disabilities. This **FREE event** is something you will not want to miss. See you at the festival!

Northwoods Arts Council is looking for volunteers for upcoming events. Click the "Volunteer" button or visit the following link to view all of the event opportunities at: <https://signup.com/go/PKkxBIY>

Volunteer



Lakeside Concert Series

July 30—Aug 27, Fridays, 5-7pm
September 4, Rockin' Hill, 1-3pm,
 All at Birch Lake Park Pavilion

Lakeside Concert Series



Sacred Heart CCW Annual Flea Market & Craft Sale

Aug 11, 8-3pm



Weekly Meat Raffle

Hackensack American Legion, 5pm, Sundays;
 6pm, Thursdays

Test your Trivia

- Rendezvous Brewing, 5:30pm, Tuesdays
- Hackensack American Legion, 7pm, Wednesdays

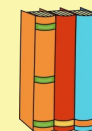


Burger Bar, Hackensack American Legion, 4-8pm, Fridays



Community Breakfasts

- Lions Pancake Breakfast, 7:30-11am, **1st Sunday** of the month
- American Legion Auxiliary, 8:30-11:30am, **3rd Sunday** of the month



Lending Library

Visit our beloved historic log cabin library! **Hours are Monday - Saturday, 10am - 2pm** through August; only Saturdays in September. No library card is needed. The library is staffed by a group of dedicated volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, call Maggie McGill at 218-682-2224 or 515-210-9028.



Unique Hackensack Finds

- Celebrating our area's valued assets. -



Veterans Memorial at Paws & Claws

by Kaitlyn Yutzenka

On Saturday, June 12, Paws & Claws hosted a dedication event for our Veteran's Memorial which we have been building over the past year. This is a place created to recognize and honor those who have served or continue to serve our great nation. This memorial was built for our community, and we welcome you to come and enjoy this space.

Coretta Czcycalla, Paws & Claws Executive Director, gave the welcome. We were honored to have Heather Cruse perform the National Anthem to kick off our ceremony. Members from the area Legions, Auxiliaries, Rotaries, Legion Riders, and more were in attendance for the

dedication performed by members of Hackensack and Backus Honor Guards that included a gun salute and bugle call. The weather was beautiful. It was a great chance for people to connect and enjoy donuts provided by Super One.

Thank you to all who made this memorial a reality! Generous donors include American Legion Auxiliary Unit 202, American Legion Post 202, Lions Club, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 134, American Legion Post 134, American Legion Riders Walker MN, Walker Rotary, American Legion Post 368, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 368, VFW Post 772, Anderson-Black Auxiliary Unit 462, and Betty Thomas. Thank you also to all the volunteers who contributed their time and talent.



Hackensack Kids Fishing Contest Celebrates 24 Years

by Bill Kennedy

This year we are celebrating the 24th anniversary of the Hackensack Children's Fishing Contest! The fishing contest is **every Tuesday from 11 AM to 12:30 PM** at the city pier in downtown Hackensack.

Most days there are at least 100 kids or more, plus their families flocking to the pier, and it is transformed from a quiet serene place to pure organized pandemonium.

Free hot dogs and pop, minnow races, casting contest, candy bag, and prizes for winners. Everyone can be the Grand Prize Winner! Check out Facebook for 1000's of photos since 2014; Facebook.com/HackCFC

Contestants are asked to bring their own rods, tackle, and PFD. Bait is supplied. We do have some used equipment that can be checked out on a first come, first served basis. If you forget something, we usually have plenty of whatever you need to get out fishing.

It takes a lot of effort to put this event on, and it would not be possible without the dedicated help of the many volunteers. Many thanks also to those who help promote our event all year long. If you or your company would like to help, please contact Bill Kennedy @ 218-838-9468 or email HackCFC@gmail.com



Volunteer



Everyone knows that walking is a great way to get exercise, lose weight, and make social connections with neighbors and friends! Cass County has begun a new initiative to gather interested walkers for coordinated walks in the county, including our Hackensack area! We are just starting to investigate options to make this work in our town. Talk to your friends, and if you are interested, please stop in to Soulshine Cyclery and talk to Jesse! Or call him at 218-209-2058, or Linda at 218-820-1461.



Hackensack Arts & Fun

- Celebrating our area's unique activities and pursuits. -

kokoro

CENTER FOR MUSIC & THE PERFORMING ARTS

Area songwriters and poets who'd like to meet from the comfort of your home, Kokoro has you covered!

Kokoro's **Gathering of Poets** meets monthly on Zoom to share original poetry. To join, email Grace at kokoropoets@gmail.com.

Songwriters in the Round - Share your songs in the round over Zoom. Stay after for conversation about songwriting, resources, recording, and more. For more info, email Kiki at kokoroperformingarts@gmail.com.

Poetry in Public Places is a fun, playful poetry experience. Area poets share and display poems in parks, local establishments, and community spaces. It's an ongoing event with games and prizes! Our volunteers reach out to local businesses, design family-friendly games, help spread the word, and assist in creating a super-special kickoff event. To volunteer, contact Greg at gregwebbpoet@gmail.com.

Find us on Facebook at [Kokoro Center for Music and the Performing Arts](https://www.facebook.com/KokoroCenterforMusicandthePerformingArts)

Kokoro celebrates and enriches the performing arts scene in the Minnesota Northwoods.



Kokoro receives \$500 grant from the Hackensack Lakes Area Community Foundation.

Pickleball is Alive and Well in Hackensack

by Steve Norlin

Come out and play pickleball, the fastest growing sport in the U.S.! Hackensack has 2 locations for play. If you enjoy the outdoors, you can play on the two pickleball courts that are on the Hackensack tennis courts. If you want to play out of the sun and heat, you can play on the two courts in the Hackensack Community Center.

Before the pandemic, Hackensack Pickleball Club had over 60 members that played in the Hackensack Community Center. When Covid hit, playing indoors was suspended. The club received permission from the City to paint pickleball court lines on the tennis courts and use the tennis court nets.

This year, we have both options open to us. If you prefer to play inside, you will need to sign up using [Playtimescheduler.com](https://playtimescheduler.com), show your Covid vaccine card (one time), and fill out a waiver form. If you prefer to play outside, the tennis courts are there for you.

Member is \$10 and \$2 per playing time. Non-members pay \$3 per playing time.

For more information, please go to our [Hackensack Pickleball Club](https://www.facebook.com/hackensackpickleballclub) Facebook page or our website: hackensackpickleballclub.wordpress.com.

Contact Steve at snorlin@gmail.com for more information about Playtime Scheduler.

Hope to see you on the courts!



Photo credit: Jean Blommè



**HACKENSACK
LAKES AREA**
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Comprehensive Plan Update

- Working collectively and collaboratively to make a positive difference for our future. -



City of Hackensack Comprehensive Plan Summer Update

by Tad Erickson, Regional Development Planner, Region Five Development Commission

As we move toward the wrap-up of the City's comprehensive planning process, it's important to recognize the level of time, effort, thought, and consideration that the local planning team (LPT) has put forth throughout this process, with particular emphasis on gathering public input.

From our public informational kickoff meeting in late July of last year to the community survey conducted in November 2020, the 30-day public review/comment period that ended last month, along with many other opportunities for public input, the local planning team has striven to crystalize the community's vision for Hackensack. In turn, they translated that vision into streamlined, actionable goals and policies to guide Hackensack's development into the near future through its DRAFT Comprehensive Plan.

Throughout the process, the consultants and the LPT have maintained a webpage dedicated to the comprehensive planning process where anyone can access the meeting materials including agendas, meeting minutes, and handouts at regionfive.org/Hackensack.

The other half of the equation deserves just as hearty a thank you and that is YOU - residents, business owners, and visitors who spoke up, shared views, provided feedback, and reviewed the DRAFT goals and DRAFT plan. Your input and feedback was the most valuable asset to the LPT. Your voices shaped the DRAFT plan which can be also be viewed at the Region Five-Hackensack link above.

The planning team and consultants presented the DRAFT plan to the City Council at the July 19th meeting. The plan will come before the City Council in August for council action. As always members of the public are welcome to attend council meetings.

For updates and additional details about the City of Hackensack's Comprehensive Plan process, including the project's timeline and ways to participate, feel free to reach out to Tad Erickson at terickson@regionfive.org, or by phone at 218.894.3233 Ext. #7

Justice Ministry Team

by Tom Cox

Close to 100 people attended "Hackensack Happenings," a public forum at Union Church, UCC, on Sunday, July 11th.

Game Changers Treasurer, Lisa Tuller, described the group's seven Project Teams; Denny Ganz described the *Hackensack Lakes Area Community Foundation*; and Mayor, Bill Kennedy, spoke on current and projected developments in the City. Gary Dietrich moderated the forum.

Union's Justice Ministry Team was the event's sponsor. Created by the congregation in 2011, the team's current mission statement reads:

"We are a growing group of people gathered by Union Congregational Church who proudly affirm and celebrate that sacred love is inclusive for all creation and all people. We therefore commit to:

- becoming good neighbors to the Native American people in our area;
- taking regenerative care of our environment, particularly protecting the quality of our waters; and,
- providing a safe and affirming place for our local LGBTQ community members."



Mayor Bill Kennedy speaking at Union Church Forum. Denny Ganz and Lisa Tuller sit to Bill's left.

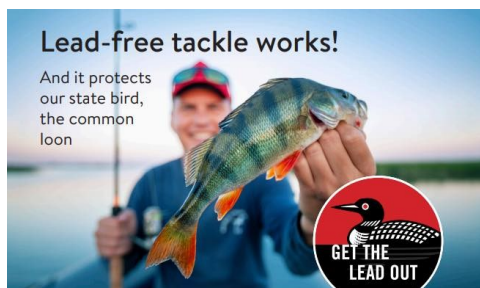


At 10:45 AM, Sunday, August 8th, Union will sponsor a forum featuring Joy Persall. Ms. Persall holds an M.A. in Organization Management and Development with extensive experience in community philanthropy and nonprofits. As a woman of Ojibwe Metis' descent, mother, grandmother, gardener, and seed keeper, she is a gardener of people, teams, and organizations. Her forum topic is "Holding Relationships as Sacred." Union Church is at 401 Lake Avenue East.



Beautiful Hackensack

- Teams working to make Hackensack a beautiful place to live, learn, play and work. -



ANGLERS, PLEASE GET THE LEAD OUT!

by Jack Fitzgerald

Of your tackle boxes, that is. When ingested by waterfowl (loons, swans) as they search for gizzard grit, lead kills.

Instead, use tackle made from tin, tungsten-nickel alloy, steel, bismuth, or glass. Ask at your local tackle store or shop online.

Want to try lead-free tackle? Give us at least 4 ounces of your lead tackle (split shots, sinkers, jigs) and we'll give you **some lead-free tackle samples and a coupon for one free beverage** (one pint or less – alcoholic or non-alcoholic) from Rendezvous Brewing in Hackensack.

Bring your lead tackle to Rendezvous Brewing, First Street, downtown Hackensack on **Tuesday, August 10, from 1-3 p.m.**

Must be 21 to purchase/consume alcohol. One coupon per person per day. Other limits apply. Co-sponsored by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the MN Division and the Cass County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League and Rendezvous Brewing. (Photo credits: Lynn Harrington—loon, Sean Johnson—lake reflections)



Lucette at the Minnesota State Fair

by Gary Dietrich

As a GreenStep City, Hackensack will be recognized this fall at the Minnesota State Fair! The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) exhibit will feature a few cities that have had a major positive affect in conserving energy and protecting the environment over the past year. Hackensack, the second smallest GreenStep City in the program, will receive this special acknowledgement this year. The Sunday of Labor Day weekend, September 5th, has been identified as the day that we will receive that special recognition.

Our city was given the privilege of having one of our citizens be featured for individual special recognition, and that person is Lucette, Paul Bunyan's sweetheart and wife! As you may know she has been included in our new City logo and will be painted on our water tower as it is reconditioned this fall.

Please stop by the MPCA exhibit and say hello to the people that are supporting the GreenStep program from the MPCA. If you are there on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend, look for a representative from our community that will share in the greeting. (Photo credit: Doug Toth)

Lucette's Summer Photo Contest Winner

by Linda Ottman

Jo Cornell wins the photo contest with her photo of a turtle digging a nest in the sand at Variety Lake last month. There were some great photos submitted, and this is the winner this time! We think it's brilliant, as it highlights some natural beauty, while most of the rest of the newsletter is filled with people fun!

Thank you to everyone who submitted photos to our fourth photo contest! Submissions become the property of the City of Hackensack and may be used

for other purposes. One winner per newsletter.

Submissions are sometimes used to accompany articles in the Gazette and photographers are credited.

The next issue of *Lucette's Gazette* comes out in the fall. Entries are now being accepted for the next contest. The contest winner receives a \$50 cash prize. Please submit high resolution, JPEG-formatted photos. Include where the photo was taken, your contact information, and mailing address in the event you are the winner and email Linda Ottman at howdy1953@gmail.com.

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Kirsten Eggena, Lucette's sunset (cover)

To receive future copies of *Lucette's Gazette*, email Linda at howdy1953@gmail.com



Telling our stories together



Community Newsletter

August 2021

www.cityofhackensackmn.org
www.hackensackchamber.com

1-800-279-6932