

Mille Lacs Messenger



Wednesday, April 7, 2021

\$1.00

Business
Garrison's Spotlight
Cafe introduces new
ice cream parlor
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A community
Easter Egg
Fun Day was
staged from
11 a.m. to
1 p.m.
on April 3
at the Onamia
High School
parking lot.

The entire event was
done with participants
remaining in their vehicles
while moving from
station to station.

PHOTO BY BOB STATZ

Hippity, hoppin' all the way

Vehicles pulled up to station one to receive a gift bag containing candy, books, art supplies, socks, and pencils, before moving to the second station where they registered for a chance to win over 30 special prizes. The even, sponsored by the Onamia Area Civic Association and area Lions Clubs, also provided a Bunny-Meal stand where the area Lions Club distributed over 200 sack lunches. Pictured above exchanging high-fives with Easter Bunny at the Fun Day in Onamia was 10-year-old Ben Molloy.

When will the ice go out?



PHOTO BY T.A. LEBRUN

Ice out on Wednesday? We will see...

March 2021 went out like a lion around Mille Lacs Lake with high winds stirring up the lake ice causing piles of floating shards to creep onto many shorelines. Sustained southerly winds of 20 to 30 miles per hour on March 28 and 29 caused ice to break away and head for the north shore of Mille Lacs, followed the next two days by even more ferocious, windy days, this time blowing from the north and west. Some hot spots hit hard by these winds were the land around Liberty Beach, causing the ice to rip Mille Lacs' very own Statue of Liberty on the lake's east side from its base (photo above). On the south shore, spiked flows were forced ashore near a lake-home property just down the road from Izatys Resort created a spectacular sight for many who drove their cars to inspect the phenomenon.

by Erik Jacobson
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After a mild winter and an interesting ice fishing season, the big lake looks like it's getting ready to shed its skin. On average, ice out is around the third week of April, but ice out has the potential to be a bit earlier this year. Other than the two weeks of cold weather in February – the coldest February in 30 years – no one can really complain about the weather this past winter. Despite that cold snap, the ice on the big pond never did get as thick as usual.

Generally speaking, the goal is to be driving on the lake by Christmas, as that is a very busy holiday for ice fishing – not this year. An-

glers out ice fishing on Wigwam Bay in early December on 6 inches of ice could still hear the waves crashing on the edge of the sheet at the mouth of the bay – what an eerie sound. The main lake just refused to freeze shut. There were a couple mornings in early December that it looked like it was frozen all the way across. But the afternoon wind would pick up and blow it open again. When it finally did freeze all the way, it was very rough ice. There were actually sheets that got blown under other sheets, so when you drilled a hole to fish, you had to drill through multiple layers. Large fish houses

Ice to 12

No new COVID deaths in March in Mille Lacs

by T.A. LeBrun
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Mille Lacs County has made progress in the vaccination process with about 39% (7,867 people out of the 20,382 population in the County) of the population having at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccination, and 26% have been fully vaccinated as of Monday, April 5. This is slightly better than the national percentage of 32% having had a first vaccine. The county did not have a COVID-19 death in the month of March. COVID-19 cases hovered around five new cases per day early in March and increased slightly with around 9 new cases reported daily in late March.

As of Monday, April 5, there have been a total of 47 COVID-19 deaths and 2,572 cases reported.

What demographic has had the vaccination so far?

So far, the demographic of Phase 1A and 1B have been allowed to receive the vaccine in Mille Lacs County. This has included health care personnel, long-term care residents, populations at high risk for severe disease and essential workers.

Who can get the vaccination and how?

The Minnesota Department of Health, as of March 30, has opened up eligibility to all Minnesotans, ages 16 and up. Prioritization will still be given to previous phases, according to

Mille Lacs County Community and Veterans Services Director Beth Crook.

"Mille Lacs County Community Health is preparing to host clinics weekly, as allocation and need allows," said Crook. "Clinics will be held in Milaca and Princeton."

Crook added that Mille Lacs County consistently receives the Moderna vaccine, which has only been approved for ages 18 and up, but community members may sign up for their vaccine and find updates on our website: www.millelacs.mn.gov/2707/Register-for-the-COVID-19-Vaccine. If you do not have internet access, you

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Local
Someday Isle closes temporarily due to roof leak

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Heard it on the Sidelines

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Lewis Cannon gives turkey hunting update

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MLHS gives COVID update

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Affordable year round cabin in Isle, MN, near Mille Lacs Lake! This 3 bed 2 bath home has lots of natural woodwork, a custom peninsula counter in the kitchen and many new updates. There are low taxes and from the back deck you have year round views of the lake, beautiful landscaping and a new (2017) steel roof. It's located within 1 mile of public boat landing, beach, shopping, restaurants the Soo Line ATV/snowmobile trail system. Seller will agree to put \$5000. Towards a new well with an acceptable offer. Come relax and see for yourself what all the Mille lacs lake area has to offer!



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