NORTHWEST WATER CARNIVAL **OPENING WEEKEND DELIGHTS**

By Michael Achterling machterling@dlnewspapers.com

t was a pancake breakfast at the airport.

It was car crashes at the county fairgrounds.

And, it was also a family Sunday at the park and beach with 17 athletic pooches soaring through the air to large splashes and applause from the crowd.

The opening weekend of the 85th Northwest Water Carnival did not disappoint event attendees from July 9 to July 11, with a full schedule of events and activities for people of all ages. The event is sponsored by the Detroit Lakes Jaycees and runs through July 18, which will feature the Parade of the Northwest and water ski show on Sunday.

"We have been a little short on members, but we have everyone who has just stepped up and I'm very, very impressed with our group," said Kate Spaeth, president of the Detroit Lakes Jaycees. "They come out here and they are just giving their all."

Weekend started on Friday, July 9 with a performance by Tim Eggebraaten to celebrate the 60th birthday for the Lake



Kelsea Jasch, 4, of Detroit Lakes, tries to persuade her turtle to move during the turtle races in City Park during the 85th Northwest Water Carnival in Detroit Lakes on July 11, 2021.

Agassiz Regional Library, which includes the public library in Detroit Lakes.

By Saturday morning, it was time for the pancake breakfast

at the Detroit Lakes - Becker County Airport, hosted by Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1498 located in Detroit Lakes. Their

membership promotes aviation enthusiasm of all kinds from building to flying, according to the group's Facebook page, and members enjoyed serving

the large crowd and showing their aircraft, one group member said.

"It's great and it started out at an absolute perfect pace, but now it's starting to stack up a little bit," said Jason Anderson, a EAA 1498 member and former member of the Fargo Air National Guard, during the event.

He also said he received his pilots license in 1980, beginning his 41-year love affair with airplanes. However, he is between planes at the moment, but he had been flying a Cessna 172 and Piper-Cherokee 182.

Also at the airport, a line of classic cars added additional eye candy as event attendees ate breakfast and toured the

Following the pancake breakfast on Saturday, July 10, a five-round demolition derby kicked off at the Becker County Fairgrounds in the afternoon. More than 10 drivers competed across five categories which included: full size V8 cars, regular compacts, V6 engine trucks, mini-compact and SUVs, and welded compacts.

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kills DL man

News Staff

Lakes man was killed in two passengers were a Becker County crash not injured. on Saturday, July 10, while another motorcycle rider was injured in a separate crash the same day.

The Minnesota State was wearing a helmet.

fatal and Highland Drive in Dodge Ram and 1995 p.m. Harley Davidson Cruiser Highway 34 when they collided about 4:35 p.m. Saturday.

driven by Elizabeth Detroit Lakes.

Ann Schenatzki, 37, of A 74-year-old Detroit Ogema. Schenatzki and

> Funeral services for Satkoski were pending with Jones-Pearson Funeral Home of Park

Rapids. In Saturday's other Patrol identified the crash, Douglas Jon victim as Darryl Antho- Allen, 56, of Pillager, ny Satkoski. Satkoski was injured when he rolled his 1985 Honda crash motorcycle on Highway occurred at Highway 34 113 on the northern edge of Becker County. The Detroit Lakes. A 2021 crash happened about 6

Allen sustained injuwere both eastbound on ries that the Minnesota State Patrol said were not life-threatening. Allen was The Dodge Ram was treated at Essentia in

Motorcycle crash | Ogema comes alive as over 500 show up for family reunion

By Nathan Bowe

nbowe @dlnewspapers.com

It was a colorful group of people that got together in Ogema over the weekend. And not just because of their personalities: Hundreds of people came from across the country for a big family reunion, and they wore color-coded T-shirts, the better to sort each other out:

There were Teikens and Rellers and Hobans, aplenty, as well as Jaskens, St. Germain-Lohmans, McArthurs and Trujillos, among others.

They came in a sea of colorful T-shirts: Pink, red, orange, green,



Nathan Bowe/Tribune

Four organizers of the family reunion in Ogema, from left: Cleo Starkey, Bill Brakefield, Wayne Reller and Jamie Weigel.

blue, purple and others.

And all were descended from Henry Teiken and Anna Jasken, same day: March 10, 1910. The Teikens came Jaskens came from Aitorganizers of the big every five years.

with a laugh.

They say an army travels on its stomach, wouldn't have gotten far without Shirley Kjolberg. "She does families that pitch in." all the cooking," Starfor volunteers Friday

vellow, light blue, dark favorite knife to cut up potato salad," Starkey added.

Reunion organizers spent \$3,000 on food. whose families both but that didn't include moved to Ogema the any of those artificially-flavored storebought cookies. Kjolfrom Glencoe and the berg and her helpers made 800 chocolate kin, according to Cleo chip, monster and pea-Starkey, one of the nut butter cookies from scratch. "There was a lot reunion, which is held of cookie dough, I had a big ol' washtub full — it More than 500 peo- looked like one of those ple showed up for old-fashioned baby this reunion, held in tubs," Kjolberg said with Ogema, population 214. a laugh. One woman "We take over the scooped so much dough town." Starkey said onto baking sheets that she got a blister. Call it a casualty of war.

"I had a lot of good and the army in Ogema helpers, a lot of good dishwashers," Kjolberg said. "Thank God for big

This reunion had key said. "She called something for everyone.

On Friday evening,

down the main street of Ogema, with some entries, including antique tractors and restored cars, and a restored grain wagon painted with the colors and name of the family tree.

Saturday was a day in the park, with bouncy houses for the kids, bean bag games, and even a rock-climbing tower, courtesy of the Minnesota National Guard.

Saturday afternoon the traditional auction was held, with amateur (and very good) auctioneer Bill Brakefield hawking everything from preserved goods to specialty garlic cloves to handmade quilts, braided rugs, bottles of wine, and all sorts of memorabilia and other items — mostly grown, made, created and otherwise provided by by family members.

good-natured The auction raised over \$10,000, which will pay for the next reunion in five years, Starkey said. The last auction five years ago raised over \$6,000 to pay for this event. "The auction is always fun," Starkey said.

The day ended with a dance with live music at the Ogema community center. "The goal is to keep the young people happy so their parents will be happy and come back again, said another organizer, Wayne Reller.

morning, 'bring your there was a parade OGEMA: Page A9

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State bound

DL 13U team returns to state for first time since 2018-19. Page B1







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THINGS ARE HOPPENING AT WATER CARNIVAL











Michael Achterling / Tribune Top: Layla Jackson, 9, Seattle, Wash., smiles while showing off her winning frog at the frog and turtle races during the 85th Northwest Water Carnival in Detroit Lakes on July 11, 2021. Middle Left: Josh Wurst, car 15X, and Curt Zacharias, car 211, collide at the demolition derby at the Becker County Fairgrounds during the 85th Northwest Water Carnival in Detroit Lakes on July 10, 2021. Middle Right: Drive-in and Fly-in attendees view a collapsible airplane at the Detroit Lakes -

Association Chapter 1498, cooks pancakes at the Flyin and Drive-in at the Detroit Lakes - Becker County Airport during the 85th Northwest Water Carnival in Detroit Lakes on July 10, 2021. Bottom Right: David Harper, left, Aedan Harper, center, and Lee Harper, all of Ponsford, Minn., smile next to their sand castle on City Beach during the 85th Northwest Water





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Otter Berry Farm offers lifelong memories in their strawberry fields

By Emily Beal Forum News Service

OTTER TAIL COUN-TY, Minn. — Tucked away in Otter Tail County, you'll find a field of strawberries with laughter coming out of each row. From grandparents assisting little ones on the hunt for the perfect berry to pick to children snacking on more strawberries than end up in their bucket, it's evident that in this field memories are made. Which is why to Cordell and Kris Huebsch, their farm, Otter Berry Farm, is so important.

"Now having a commodity where your customers come right out, we did not anticipate being able to see the joy or the emotion involved Huebsch, said. "It's the best part."

Kris and her husband, Cordell, both come from farming backgrounds and both hold degrees in agriculture. Running a diversified operation, the pair decided to incorporate strawberries into their farm in 2016. Due to strawberries taking one full year to grow and be harvested, they had their first strawberry crop in 2017. The new endeavor has been exciting, but has come with its fair share of ups and

"The weather is a substan-





Emily Beal / Forum News Service in picking strawberries," Kris Left: Cordell and Kris Huebsch stand with their daughters, Klara and Isabel, in their strawberry fields. Photo taken June 28, 2021, in Otter Tail County, Minn. Right: According to Kris Huebsch, many families travel far and wide to pick a bucket of strawberries at Otter

tial part of when we can open and when we can have people out. It was looking like a pret-

ty good crop," Huebsch said. That was until Memorial Day weekend when the strawberries were exposed to much colder than average weather for the year and could not withstand the frost. Due to the cold spell, 40% of Otter Berry Farm's strawberry crop was lost. Then a week later, the temperature exceeded

its toll on the berries.

"Those extremes are something we have been trying to deal with. What happens with those extremes is strawberries try to go dormant again because it's so cold. But then it gets hot, and they want to ripen fast. We're extremely lucky we only lost that percentage, and we have been able to open and have a harvest," Huebsch said.

The Huebschs have friends over 100 degrees, also taking and fellow strawberry farmers are headed to the tail end of

that were so impacted by the turbulent weather that they were unable to open their fields to the public this berry picking season.

Otter Berry offers two different options for their customers to acquire their strawberries: a you-pick experience or pre-picked berries. Due to the weather conditions of this growing season, Otter Berry's you-pick season will be cut shorter than normal, as they

their harvesting season.

"We're just thankful we were able to provide somewhat of a crop to people. We will be here next year and hopefully Mother Nature is a little bit nicer to us," Huebsch said.

Otter Berry Farms also offers fun fall farm memories for families to enjoy in their corn maze and pumpkin patch. For more information, visit https://www.otterberryfarm.com.

CARNIVAL

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"A lot of these guys have been derbying together, so everybody is always here to put on a show for the families, and that's what they all come out for, and that's what it's all about, putting a show on, said Drew Lessin, chair of the water carnival's demolition derby committee. "It's a good turnout, always what we

hope for." Drivers could win up to \$1,000 in each round with \$400 going to the

second place finisher. The track started out muddy, which made it difficult to maneuver the vehicles into striking

position. "It's hard to put on a show when it's that muddy," said Curt Zacharias, of Ridgeville, Minn., winner of the full-size car class. "It's hard on the motors. though. I had to run the RPMs just to move around."

Zacharias said it took him about 50 hours to put together his vehicle for the derby, and only about 15 minutes to destroy it.

On Sunday, July 11, it was Family Day at the Northwest Water Carnival and featured a plethora of activities for children, including: frog and turtle races, a toddler trot, ship building, face painting, a sandcastle contest and puppy plunge from the J&K Marine dock on City Beach.

"And that's what this day is all about. it's all these different activities for the kids," said Kate Spaeth. "They can go around, they can pick and choose what they want to do and where they want to be, everything we can do to

make it for the families." Kids raced frogs and

turtles in city park through eight different heats, with dozens of kids competing in the event – using many of the same animals throughout the competition.

Berry Farms. Photo taken June 28, 2021, in Otter Tail County, Minn.

"This is what it's about, bringing people together," said Kyle Meacham, a frog and turtle race event organizer. "Seeing these smiling faces gives me a lot of hope for the future of our community.

The animals were provided by a family who, every year, take their pontoon to Muskrat Lake to secure animals for the event. This year the family provided 10 turtles for the event, according to a family member.

The toddler trot

followed the races near the bandshell with dozens of barely walking toddlers and older kids scrambling to secure inflatable beach balls that were released on a hill. There was also face painting and trolley rides throughout the

morning's events. Sunday afternoon at the water carnival was for the pooches as event-goers lined the City Beach to see 17 athletic pooches make leaps from the J&K Marine dock to see which one could leap the farthest.

"It is one of my favorite events,' said Kate Spaeth, an organizer of the puppy plunge. "I've been helping to chair it for the last five years now, and every year we continue to grow and have more dogs, and more entertaining dogs."

Trophies were awarded to Lincoln, a chocolate Labrador from Detroit Lakes, who jumped a total of 48-feet through both of his jumps and Aspen, a 5-year-old black Labrador, who had the longest jump, clearing 25-feet in a

single plunge. The 85th Northwest Water Carnival will continue this week through Sunday, July 28. Check out the

remaining schedule of

water carnival events at

the Detroit Lakes Jaycees website. The Jaycees hold events every month and hold their monthly meetings on the first Thursday of every month

at Hub41 in Detroit Lakes

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