

Dragon boats to return to Barker's Island

By Shelley Nelson
Superior Telegram

SUPERIOR — The Lake Superior Dragon Boat Festival is coming back this summer after a two-year pandemic hiatus.

The festival roars back to life Aug. 26-27 on Barker's Island, with the Rotary Club of Superior taking the reins and a new charitable partner, 23rd Veteran, pitching in to offer more events to keep festivalgoers and paddlers busy throughout the day.

"They are with us full bore to host the dragon boats," said Ben Damberg, festival chairman and member of the Rotary Club of Superior. "They had been the partner with us two years ago when the pandemic broke out and we had to make some tough choices."

The Rotary Club of Superior is hosting this year's festival.

People who can't drum up the 22-member team to paddle in the competition this year will be able to participate in the dragon boat races, said



Mike Waldron, executive director of 23rd Veteran, which helps military members and veterans who have experienced trauma recover hope and happiness. He said a boat

for individuals without a team will also be available.

"We're going to get as many boats as we can," Damberg said. "Our goal is 70 boats this year."

In addition, a couple 5K fun runs, tug-of-war competitions, a live DJ and emcee for the race are all part of this year's event, Waldron said.

"You don't have to

paddle to have fun," he said.

The beer tent and food trucks will also be on-site to slake thirst and hunger during the fundraising festival.

Lake Superior Dragon Boat Festival teams practice near Barker's Island in 2018.

Superior Telegram file photo

Proceeds from on-site sales during the festival help the Rotary Club of Superior with its charitable giving and fundraising helps 23rd Veteran serve military members and veterans.

Since its inception in 2002, the event has raised more than \$1.3 million to support charitable organizations in the Twin Ports.

This year, Waldron said the No. 1 thing that 23rd Veteran is contributing to the festival is the online portal that will allow people to register, take care of waivers and fundraise from home.

"We're trying to go back to what summer is in Superior," Damberg said.

Registration for this year's dragon boat festival is now open for racers, volunteers and sponsors at superior-dragons.org.

Animal rescue gets name

By Dylan Sherman
Cloquet Pine Journal

CARLTON — Residents who started the planning process for a new animal shelter in Carlton County have picked a name for the proposed organization and have moved forward with the formal creation of a shelter.

The group, which now meets biweekly in the basement of the Carlton VFW, decided on Carlton County Animal Rescue as the name during its meeting Thursday, Feb. 17.

Picking the name was done through the group's Facebook page, which allowed approximately 200 votes to be cast, and members in attendance at the meeting approved the selection.

Carlton County Animal Rescue was resoundingly chosen by the group with 123 votes, with the second closest, Northern Tails, receiving 42 votes.

Cory Martinson, one of the members, said the next steps for the group are to finalize a mission statement and submit the documents required to file for nonprofit status.

"We got a little bit closer in discussions and



Dylan Sherman / Cloquet Pine Journal

Carlton County residents meet and discuss plans for a proposed animal shelter in Carlton County on Feb. 17.

research last meeting to where we can get too the filing of the (non-profit organization)," he said "But, we are about a meeting or two away from that."

Since the group's beginning, it has focused mainly on researching and speaking to local municipalities and other shelters in Minnesota.

Martinson said he hopes to partner with the county, Cloquet, Moose

Lake and other municipalities in the county, but knows the group has a ways to go.

"We have to show them we are serious, legitimate and transparent," he said. "Just make sure you are honest with everyone."

Angela Hillman, another member of the group, believes they will be met support from the community as she has seen it for other groups like Missing Pets in the Northland.

"I have a very strong feeling that we are going to have a very strong backing and support," she said.

Bekki Babineau, who initially formed the group, acknowledged that while she agrees, the word still needs to be circulated about Carlton County Animal Rescue.

"They have definitely

established name recognition and trust within the community," she said. "We may not (have that) when we are first out of the gate, we'll just have to see."

Bebineau suggested even getting Missing Pets in the Northland involved with Carlton County Animal Rescue, as they already have pet fostering capabilities.

The group has a strong core of 10 members who attend in person since it was first formed and held meetings in October 2021.

This group's Facebook page has seen a large amount of growth, from 100 to 379 people.

Babineau said after filing for nonprofit status the group intends to create a board of directors from some of the regular attendees of meetings.

BYGONES

News Tribune, Feb. 28, 1982

▶ Ola Hassis, a 30-year-old Swedish forestry manager, won yesterday's 10th American Birkebeiner 55-kilometer cross country ski race in Cable, Wisconsin. Hassis surged ahead of Norwegian skier Jan Frode Bjorkheim in the last kilometer to win the race with an unofficial time of 2:42:09.

▶ Two 16-year-olds won free trips to Denmark and Norway in a ceremony last night at the Radisson Duluth Hotel. Jamie Jacquart, Duluth, and Mary McHugh, Virginia, will join 160 other newspaper carriers from around the U.S. on the trip, sponsored by Parade magazine.

News Tribune, Feb. 28, 1922

▶ Beginning tomorrow, milk prices in Duluth will be 10 cents a quart, Bridgeman-Russell Company officials have announced. This is the first time since July 1917 that milk prices have been that low, and the price had increased to 16 cents a quart by 1919.

▶ The supremacy of one sex over the other in spelling will be settled tonight at Duluth's Covenant Hall, 12 E. Superior St. Twenty-five men of Covenant Lodge, B'nai B'rith, will meet 25 women from the Council of Jewish Women in an old-fashioned spelling bee.

Bygones is researched and written by David Ouse, retired reference librarian from the Duluth Public Library. He can be contacted at djouse49@gmail.com.



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NEWS STAFF AND SALES REPRESENTATIVES ARE AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

Neal Ronquist Publisher
nronquist@duluthnews.com (218) 723-5235

Rick Lubbers Editor
rlubbers@duluthnews.com (218) 723-5301

Joe Grammond Group Controller/Circ. Director
jgrammond@duluthnews.com (218) 723-5267

Megan Keller Adv. Director
mkeller@duluthnews.com (218) 723-5213

Chuck Frederick Opinion
cfrederick@duluthnews.com (218) 723-5316

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