The Changing Times

August 2012

A history of fire A future to inspire

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Seeking Donations to Make Peshtigo River Safer

A volunteer project to make the Peshtigo River safer for recreational users has begun. The project is to reduce large rock piles, timbers, and other structures according to Eric and Cindy Anderson, heading the group of volunteers.

Donations are now being accepted for the project Donations can be made out to the Peshtigo Community Foundation earmarked "For Peshtigo River". They can be dropped off at the M&I Bank in Peshtigo or mailed to M&M Area Community Foundation, PO Box 846, Menominee, MI 49858. Donations that are mailed to the M&M Area Foundation will be earmarked for the Peshtigo River.

Shooby's is Moving

Shooby's Trophies, Awards, Apparel & Engraving will be relocating to 2035 Marinette Avenue in Suite 102 next to UES Computers in the old NuLife Building in Marinette.

For all your trophy and apparel needs call 715-735-3670.

Peshtigo Photo Contest

Drop off your Bridge/River photos at the Peshtigo Pharmacy for a chance to win a $25 gift certificate! They are looking for unique pictures of the bridge and river since the project started. Voting will take place after the completion of the project. Photos will be on display at the Peshtigo Pharmacy. Please write your name and phone number on the back of your picture.

Technology and Facilities Upgrade

Saint Thomas Aquinas Academy is pleased to announce a significant technology and facilities upgrade at all grade levels. This improvement is made possible through the generosity of several donors and in collaboration with the Digital Workforce Education Society of Chicago, Illinois headed by Andrew Pincon. Using new and refurbished equipment from university systems including UW Waukesha, UW Marinette and Marquette University, all areas of the Academy will be affected by this exciting development.

"We are thrilled and a little overwhelmed by the extent, quality and generosity represented by this development. "says principal Peter Mayhew. "In a very short time, we will be at state-of-the-art status technologically. This is incredible. The educational opportunities for our students will expand immensely as our faculty and staff continues to explore on-line, two-way interactive and blended content to challenge our students and supplement what we already offer."

The High School Technology Center on the Catholic Central campus will have updated terminals, software and servers, be whiteboard equipped, have new projectors and an Elmo system. It will serve as the technology center for students at this level. A similar Junior High Exploration and Learning Center will be incorporated into the Holy Family Middle School learning program. Technology will be made available for additional tutoring or supplemental coursework. Additional computer hubs will be placed in the Theology, English, Biology and Chemistry classes and a Mac lab will be created in the Art department for graphic design applications.

The Elementary campus at St. Mary in Peshtigo will receive a highly anticipated mobile laptop unit and additional classroom upgrades. All classrooms at the Academy will benefit from overhead and stationary projectors and both campuses will have an upgraded sound system, audio visual and mobile sound equipment for events and educational opportunities.

The existing equipment at the Academy will not be going to waste. As part of the Digital Workforce Education Society's program, old computers will be wiped clean, rebuilt and refurbished in a local technology training center. The collaboration continues with Saint Thomas Aquinas helping with computer training for residents at the Rainbow House. When the residents move on to a permanent home, they will be given one of the refurbished computers from the school to use with their new skills as they begin their new lives.

Mrs. Linda Hornick, school business manager, summarizes what this means to Saint Thomas Aquinas Academy and the impact it will have. "This technology project is truly a gift. Such collaboration between higher education, training partners, volunteers, and our faculty and staff are what make this project so special. Those who benefit are innumerable. Our students, faculty, staff, parents and community outreach partners will all benefit initially with the immediate technology upgrades, but the opportunities that will unfold and present themselves down the road are limitless."

While the school currently offers college credit courses on-site in collaboration with St. Norbert College and the UW system, this investment will open the doors to expanded learning opportunities at all grade levels. The initial installation of equipment currently underway will be the building blocks for expansion and applications of technology at the school and within the community in the future.

Directors of the Peshtigo Chamber of Commerce

Current directors of the Peshtigo Chamber of Commerce include President Pat Roland; Steve Votis, Farmers & Merchants Bank & Trust; Darice Hannon, Experience Works; Treasurer Eva Kiefer, Edward Jones; Vice President Carrie Johnson, Friends Office Products; Julie Muenster, Vicki Lange, BPM, Inc.; Jeff Loomis, U.E.S. Computers; Pattie Beck, Dairy Queen Brazier; Rob Lund, Center Bowl; Marquita Limberg, Zion Lutheran; Jim Tress, Goodrich; Jon Joanis, Wisconsin Public Service; Kirsten Peters, Peshtigo Pharmacy; and Jeff Myster, Stephenson National Bank.

The directors meet on the second Monday of each month for a noon meeting. These meetings are open to members and meet at the Peshtigo Elementary Learning Center. Stop by and see your directors working for you. We would love to have you become more involved in the community. Call Cindy Hagert at 715-582-0327 for more information.

Cans for Kids

Cans for Kids collects aluminum recycled cans and uses monies collected to donate to projects helping area children. The program was started by John and Donna Berman to raise money for the Peshtigo Skateboard Park.

The fundraising program has been given to the Peshtigo Chamber of Commerce and is headed by Mary Lock, Becky Hartwig, and Cindy Hagert.

Some of the programs donated to are Peshtigo Park & Rec Summer Swim Program, Peshtigo High School Volunteer Club, Peshtigo Post Prom Party, Peshtigo Park & Rec Easter Egg Hunt, PELC Kindergarten Recycling Project, Shop with a Cop, Peshtigo Food Pantry, Peshtigo Woman's Club Bands at Badger, Peshtigo Soccer team, Santa at Peshtigo Woman's Club Stop and Shop, Peshtigo Youth Baseball for construction of the new concession and bathroom building, and co-sponsoring a magician for Peshtigo Historical Day. The newest purchase is a swing set that will be erected at the Peshtigo baseball fields. Please bring your cans to the drop off site at the Peshtigo Pharmacy. What easier way is there to positively encourage the kids of the area? Donations have been increasing and the committee would like to thank everyone who takes the time to donate their cans.

Rummage on the River

Peshtigo Chamber of Commerce sponsored the Third Annual Rummage on the River Community Wide Rummage Sale on Friday July 6th and Saturday July 7th. Despite City Street Construction and the division of the city by the replacement of the old Highway 41 Bridge, traffic was brisk in the areas on both sides of the river with a significant number of garage sale participants. The Chamber would like to thank all the sellers and buyers and to remind them to save July 12 and 13 of 2013 as the date for next year's Fourth Annual Community Wide Rummage Sale. Thank you for continuing to support Peshtigo and the local community during this construction phase. Any questions or suggestions, please contact the Chamber at 715-582-0327, by mail at P.O Box 36, Peshtigo, WI or at peshtigochamber@centurytel.net. *Peshtigo: A History of Fire-A Future to Inspire.*

Vandervest Family Opens Green Bay Site

The Vandervest family has opened the Green Bay Harley-Davidson dealership at 1966 Velp Avenue.

It has been under construction since last fall on the site which was previously the Black Forest Restaurant. Owners are Rick and Lynn Vandervest, Erik and Amy Vandervest, and Dixie and Eric Kinnard.

"We are so excited to be opening our doors to the greater Green Bay community," said Erik Vandervest. "This has truly been a dream come true for our family and we look forward to sharing our passion for the Harley-Davidson brand."

The Vandervest family did most of the interior finish work themselves adding personal touches that will be familiar to patrons of their other location, Vandervest Harley-Davidson of Peshtigo. Rick Vandervest created the look of an old western town inside the dealership using reclaimed barn board and tin. You will also see a drag racing strip and an actual drag bike racing up one of the walls and Evel Knievel making a jump over the rear balcony of the showroom.

"We owe a great deal of gratitude to our family, friends, and staff for helping us create this truly one of a kind Harley-Davidson dealership", Vandervest said.

The new part of the Vandervest building consists of a service center with underground storage and a two-story showroom. In the original structure there is retail space on the lower level and a banquet facility on the second floor.

The Olde 41 Banquet Hall, as it will be called, boasts huge wood cathedral ceilings with rustic wood and slate floors along with a generous deck with stairs leading down to a patio on the ground level overlooking beautiful Duck Creek.

"We are proud to offer this distinctive venue to the people of Northeast Wisconsin as a place for weddings and parties. The log décor and loft feel provide a warm atmosphere I think people will appreciate. From the banquet room, there is a walkway that leads to a balcony overlooking the showroom floor. It has an inviting museum-like quality to it," stated Rick.

Hours for the new dealership are Mondays through Thursdays 9 am to 6 pm, Friday 9 am to 7 pm, Saturday 9 am to 4 pm, and Sunday 10 am to 3 pm. A grand opening event is being planned for September 22.

Vandervest Harley-Davidson of Peshtigo will continue to operate to serve the loyal customers and friends who have enjoyed the service and hospitality from the Vandervest family.

Harper Furniture Mart's Retirement Sale

It's with excitement and some sadness that this announcement is being made to you…our valued friends & customers. We have begun the largest and last sales event ever for us at our store.

Benjamin Harper opened the first Harper Furniture Mart in 1877. After four generations of Harper owners, we purchased Harper Furniture Mart in 1985. Now, 27 years later, we must retire forever! We are happy, yet reflective about this event.

We are offering selections of the finest and best brands in the world, such as Sealy, Best Chair, Lane, Chromcraft, Marshfield and Vaughn Bassett are at its peak. You'll see 40%-50%-60% off in many cases. Please know that cash or credit card is best for this event. Layaway purchases will be limited to 30 days. Bring your car, truck or trailer for immediate pick up of beautiful new furniture and mattresses at the lowest prices you'll see in your lifetime.

Please shop at Harper Furniture Mart in Peshtigo where you'll get a real bargain on new furniture. We love the community and we thank you for your patronage in the past. We hope to see you soon.

Special Hours are Monday – Friday 10-7, Saturday 10-6, and Sunday 11-5. Pictured above are five generations of Harper family owners. Sincerely, Linda & Tom Sherwood

Kiefer Promoted

Eva Kiefer has been promoted to senior branch office administrator at the Peshtigo branch office of financial-services firm Edward Jones. Kiefer has been with Edward Jones the past 11 years.

Justin Oberg, the local Edward Jones financial advisor, said Kiefer is very deserving of the promotion.

"Kiefer has demonstrated an outstanding ability to juggle the many complex tasks and responsibilities associated with helping run this office. I'm very pleased that her exceptional ability and dedication to the firm have been recognized and rewarded," Oberg said.

A branch office administrator is responsible for the daily operation of an Edward Jones office. This includes providing top-notch client service, supporting marketing activities for the office and staying updated on technological advances.

To be named a senior branch office administrator, an individual must meet specific training requirements, demonstrate exceptional performance when completing office responsibilities, handle the complex tasks associated with running a high-volume office, and typically must have at least five years' experience with the firm.

"I am so pleased to receive this promotion," Kiefer said. "It's terrific to be rewarded for a job well done. Of course, it can be challenging at times, but it's always educational and I really enjoy my work."

Edward Jones provides financial services for individual investors in the United States and, through its affiliate, in Canada. Every aspect of the firm's business, from the types of investment options offered to the location of branch offices, is designed to cater to individual investors in the communities in which they live and work. The firm's 12,000-plus financial advisors work directly with nearly 7 million clients to understand their personal goals -- from college savings to retirement -- and create long-term investment solutions that emphasize a well-balanced portfolio and a buy-and-hold strategy. Edward Jones embraces the importance of building long-term, face-to-face relationships with clients, helping them to understand and make sense of the investment options available today.

In January 2012, for the 13th year, Edward Jones was named one of the best companies to work for by FORTUNE Magazine in its annual listing. The firm ranked No. 5 overall and No. 3 in Large Size Companies. These 13 FORTUNE rankings include top 10 finishes for nine years, consecutive No. 1 rankings in 2002 and 2003, and consecutive No. 2 rankings in 2009 and 2010. FORTUNE and Time Inc. are not affiliated with and do not endorse products or services of Edward Jones.

Cellcom Launches its 4G LTE Network Mobile Broadband Device Debuts as First 4G Product

Cellcom launched its 4G LTE network at the end of April in seven areas of Northeast and Central Wisconsin.

"The wireless landscape has changed dramatically over the past few years with data use skyrocketing in the form of applications, mobile web visits, streaming music and video downloads. The launch of 4G is an exciting development for Cellcom and our customers," said Pat Riordan, President and CEO of Cellcom. "4G LTE technology opens the door to give consumers what they want and need, faster data interactions."

Initially, Cellcom's 4G LTE services can be accessed using the Novatel MiFi 4510, a mobile hotspot product, which also launched in April. The MiFi allows you to connect up to five Wi-Fi-enabled devices to the Internet and can toggle to 3G when away from the 4G LTE network. The device is available for $49.95 on promotion with a two-year agreement. This device can be used with either of Cellcom's Mobile Broadband Internet plans (3 GB of data for $35 per month or 5 GB of data for $60 per month).

The first phase of Cellcom's 4G LTE rollout includes cell sites in Green Bay, Sturgeon Bay, Appleton, Oshkosh, Wausau, and parts of Oconto and Marinette Counties. Cellcom customers also have access to 4G LTE in over 250 cities across the United States, including Madison, Milwaukee, Chicago and Minneapolis. Additional cell sites in Northeast and Central Wisconsin will light up throughout 2012 as the company continues its 4G rollout.

"As a company, we have been committed to ensuring that our customers in the small cities and rural towns throughout Wisconsin and Upper Michigan have access to the same technology that is found in major metropolitan areas throughout the country," said Riordan. "Our latest investment in bringing 4G LTE technology to our customers demonstrates this commitment."

4G LTE technology improves data speeds, which is a major advantage in data-intensive activities such as streaming video and music, online gaming, and the rapidly growing number of activities with cloud-based applications. Customers can expect a data and Internet experience that is snappier and closer to real-time with download speeds averaging 5-12 mbps and upload speeds of 2-5 mbps, which is about 10 times faster than 3G.

Additional 4G LTE devices will be launched in coming months.

Binversie Joins Staff of Farmers & Merchants Bank & Trust

Philip Binversie has joined the staff of Farmers & Merchants Bank & Trust as a credit analyst. Binversie will work in the bank's downtown Marinette location at 1644 Ludington Street.

As credit analyst, he will review financial statements of current and potential new customers who apply for loans.

"We're pleased that Phil has joined our team," said Farmers & Merchants Bank & Trust President Tom Maxwell. "His expertise will allow us to serve the needs of our growing commercial loan portfolio."

Binversie is a recent graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh where he obtained a Bachelor's Degree in finance. He is a native of Whitelaw, Wis. and a graduate of Valders High School. Binversie currently resides in Wausaukee.

Farmers & Merchants Bank & Trust is a 109-year-old, locally owned, community bank with locations at 1644 Ludington St. in downtown Marinette; 2811 Roosevelt Road, near the mall, in Marinette; and 114 S. Highway 141 in Crivitz.

Lea Beier Promoted to SNBT Personal Banker

Lea C. Beier has been promoted to Personal Banker at The Stephenson National Bank & Trust (SNBT) in the Marinette office at 1820 Hall Avenue. Her primary responsibility is to help individuals and businesses identify their financial goals and ensure that they are utilizing the right products and services to meet those goals.

Beier joined SNBT in 2009 as a Customer Service Representative at the Menominee office and actively volunteers for the Annual Teach Children to Save Day financial literacy program. A Peshtigo High School graduate, Beier studied at UW Marinette and was placed on the Dean's List for high GPA. She resides in Marinette.

"Since joining the bank, Lea has continued to step up and take on more responsibility. It is wonderful to have her move into the role of Personal Banker," said Jeff Myster, Vice President of Retail Banking. "People like Lea and the rest of our team, who are knowledgeable and offer credible account advice, allow SNBT to provide superior service to individuals and businesses throughout the community."

SNBT Opens New Marquette Trust & Investment Services Office

The Stephenson National Bank & Trust (SNBT) is pleased to announce the opening of a new office located in Marquette, Mich. The establishment of the Marquette Trust & Investment Services Office marks an expansion to the existing Trust Department which is headquartered in Marinette, Wisconsin.

"We've been open to expanding for quite a while, but wanted to make sure that when we took that step, it was a solid fit with our existing structure and business plan," said John Reinke, SNBT President. "There are many things which make this expansion a smart decision, most importantly that the right individual, Mike Kolasa, was available to join our team. Because SNBT has a foundation built on sound business practice and solid financial standing, we are able to maximize this tremendous opportunity, which only increases our stability."

Kolasa joins SNBT with over 20 years of financial services and legal experience. He currently holds numerous professional credentials including J.D., LL.M, CTFA, and CFP®, with a primary focus to advise clients on financial, tax, and estate planning as well as account investment management. Kolasa lives in Marquette County.

"Adding Mike's experience and knowledge to our existing team of 18 Trust and Investment employees only strengthens SNBT's role of being 'The Premier Provider of Trusted Financial Solutions," shares Greg Salmen, Senior Vice President and Trust Manager. "SNBT now has 15 professionals who hold a cumulative 27 advanced credentials – that's the most in our entire region. Customers can be confident of the guidance they receive from SNBT's employees because they've taken additional courses and passed stringent exams to earn those credentials."

Bands at Badger Concerts Set

The Peshtigo Woman's Club is proud to sponsor the Bands at Badger summer concert series. Join them in the new pavilion, which was donated by the Rennes family, in Badger Park for concessions and some great music. The sale of these concessions helps sponsor the bands and event. Bring a lawn chair and join us on the following days left of the concert series: August 8 for Daze 2 Nights sponsored by Cans for Kids; and August 22 for Next Myle sponsored by Stephenson National Bank and Eagle Express.

All concerts will start at 6:30 pm and may be rescheduled due to the weather. Watch Facebook for those announcements and listen to local radio stations.

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Peshtigo Chamber of Commerce is to advance the economic, recreational, industrial, professional, agricultural, cultural, educational and civic welfare of the Peshtigo community and vicinity.

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.peshtigochamber.com

A history of fire
A future to inspire

Peshtigo Historical Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 22, 2012.
Mark your calendars and watch for further information.

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