

The Chetek Alert

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Chetek, Wisconsin | One Dollar & Twenty-Five Cents

FIRST LOOK

Breakfast, open house at fire hall

The Chetek Fire Department will be hosting an open house and pancake breakfast on Saturday, June 25, from 7-10:30 a.m. at the Chetek Fire Hall. All are welcome.

It is a chance for residents to visit and meet the firefighters, see the fire hall and all of the equipment.

On the menu are pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, coffee, juice and milk. There is no cost to attend or to eat, but freewill donations for the department will be accepted.

Raffle tickets will be available for purchase for a chance to win a series of large cash prizes that will be given away at the 29th annual Chetek Fire Department Ice Fishing Contest on the Chetek Chain of Lakes on Jan. 21, 2023.

For more information, contact Matt Davis at 715-764-2107.



Chetek Wine Walk is coming June 21-23

This year's first Chetek Wine Walk will be held Tuesday through Thursday, June 21-23.

400 custom wine glasses will be available for the first 400 participants, along with a book of 31 coupons and a carrying bag. The cost for this event is \$25. Proceeds will benefit the Chetek Hydroflites. The funds will be used for boat maintenance.

See the ad on Page A8 for participating businesses and more information.

DEATHS

Dale Paulson, 73,
Sand Creek
Glenna Sykes, 91,
Cameron

Hodek likely to be appointed Barron County's next clerk

BY KENTON TROUTMAN

With the retirement of former Barron County Clerk DeeAnn Cook on Friday, June 10, Deputy County Clerk Jessica Hodek is stepping up to fill the position. "DeeAnn has been in her position for the last 17 years and has earned a great deal of respect from Barron County citizens and staff," Hodek said. "I hope that I can continue to maintain all the trust that she has built up in the community for our office going forward."



Jessica Hodek

Hodek currently resides outside of Cameron with her two children and husband, Darren, who works for the Barron County Sheriff's Department. "This community is like a large family, and I love living here. I couldn't imagine raising my family anywhere else," Hodek said.

She explained how she is a loyal supporter of law enforcement and their families. Being married to a law enforcement officer, Hodek is no stranger to the unique

circumstances these families find themselves in. She has also served on the Law Enforcement Committee of Barron County as its secretary for a few years and noted some of the events the committee is known for supporting, including Shop with a Cop, National Night Out, meals for officers during National Police Week and local law enforcement scholarships. Hodek's family enjoys taking part in community events.

"Our family loves to attend as many events around the community as we can, especially now that the kids are more involved with school activities and sports at Cameron Elementary," she said.

After working with Cook for the past decade as deputy clerk, the two built a working relationship built on trust. "DeeAnn and I have worked so closely through the last ten years, and we have relied on each other heavily," Hodek explained the

SEE CLERK, PAGE A7



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Boaters all shook up after pontoon lands on island

A pontoon couldn't quite bridge over troubled water, and likely gave its occupants a shake, rattle and roll as it crashed astride a small island on Prairie Lake, northwest of the Long Bridge in Chetek around 11 p.m. on Saturday, June 11. The pontoon was safely removed from the island on Sunday. All four occupants were uninjured in the accident, but needed help getting off the island. They surely will not forget such a night. The Chetek Police Department and Chetek Fire Department assisted. The driver of the pontoon was cited for operating a boat while intoxicated.



TYLER FLORCZAK | CHETEK ALERT PHOTOS

Community parade celebrates state championship

A celebratory parade honored the Chetek-Weyerhaeuser boys track and field team who captured the 2022 Division 3 WIAA State Track & Field Championship in La Crosse on June 4. The parade took place at noon on Wednesday, June 8, where students, staff members, parents and members of the community wore school colors and lined the streets between KJ's Fresh Market and Kwik Trip to celebrate the team's accomplishment. The Bulldogs made school history by winning the team title which was the first time since 1985 (won back-to-back years in 1984 and 1985). Pictured above, at left, the state champion team poses for a photo. From left to right are: coach Bill Knickerbocker Sr., head coach Matt Buchman, Lawson Davis, Carter Kummet, Ashton Kummet, Tyler Monnier, Tristan Wendt, coach Tim Tschumperlin, coach Paula Gates and coach Matt Forrest. Pictured above, at right, track team member Jed Potter flexes atop a fire truck heading down Main Street. Pictured below, several emergency vehicles lead the parade past attendees congratulating the C-W boys track and field team.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

This dog named Sasha, was returned to the Barron County Humane Society after being stolen in the middle of the night on June 11.

Alleged dog thief collared by police

A German Shepherd and husky mix named Sasha, was stolen from the Barron County Humane Society in the early hours of Saturday, June 11.

A report of Sasha's disappearance was made around 8:15 a.m., according to the Barron County Sheriff's Dispatch log. People around the county were helping search for the stolen dog and the man who had taken her. Sightings of Sasha and her captor were reported by various people in the Rice Lake area who noticed a man riding a bike with a dog matching Sasha's description. She was found safe and delivered back to the shelter on Sunday around 2:45 p.m.

The man was arrested for criminal damage to property, burglary and theft according to the dispatch log.



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