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Oneida County sheriff's department requesting charges for Punzel

Charging request is for misconduct in public office, perjury, obstructing

By Richard Moore OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

After completing an investigation, the Oneida County sheriff's department is requesting that felony charges for misconduct in public office

and perjury, as well as for misdemeanor obstructing, be filed against former Minocqua police officer Kaleb Punzel, according to documents obtained by The Lakeland Times.

In an April 15 report,

reporting officer captain Terri Hook said the investigation showed that Punzel had breached multiple Minocqua departmental orders.

"Officer Punzel violated the Wisconsin Police Officers' Code of

Ethics which outlines the duties of all police officers throughout the state of Wisconsin," Hook wrote. "More specifically, officer Punzel violated five of the Minocqua Police Depart-

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EXPLOSIVE TRAINING EXERCISE

Rhinelander firefighter John Weigel prepares fire hoses during a full-scale simulated aircraft disaster training at the Rhinelander-Oneida County airport on Thursday, May 26, in Rhinelander.

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Local veteran makes Florida state trooper an honorary 'Batcat'

Whipple: 'When you risk your life for somebody, it means something'

By Trevor Greene OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

On Sunday, March 6, Florida Highway Patrol trooper Toni Schuck risked her life when she intentionally crashed into an intoxicated driver, stopping the person from plowing into a crowd of around 7,000 people with a BMW.

"I knew I was the last one," Schuck said, according to a March 10

Sarasota Herald-Tribune article, still recovering at the time from injuries she sustained in the incident. "In my mind, I'm thinking (the driver) is going to stop."

When the incident happened, Schuck was working security for a 10K race near Tampa,

The driver blew past the barricades and a number of other law en-

forcement officers before Schuck, who was the last of the security personnel who had a chance to stop the driver, did so.

Following the incident, and roughly 1,550 miles north in the town of Presque Isle, U.S. Air Force veteran Stuart Whipple took notice of what Schuck did. He

See Trooper. . . page 20

Lost Lake goose cull issue to be on June town meeting agenda

By Brian Jopek OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

The St. Germain town board will have on its next regular meeting agenda a project at Lost Lake to cull geese there.

Town chairman Tom Christensen said that would happen following comments made by former town treasurer Marion Janssen and others at a special meeting held on May 26.

Previously, the town board was brought up to speed on — and indicated its support for — the project during another special meeting on April 28.

Town supervisor Ted Ritter, who said he'd been in touch with both the Lost Lake District and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding a goose problem at Vandervoort Park in the Lost Lake area, provided the update.

"Lost Lake has had a rapidly-growing population of geese for several years now," Ritter said at the April 28 meeting. "I have walked across there (Vandervoort Park). You have to be very careful where you step. I mean, there is goose (excrement) everywhere."

He said the situation gets "worse and worse" because the geese wander around the park.

"Now, just think about what it's doing to the lake," Ritter said. "There are goose nests all around that lake and it's really causing problems."

He said the lake association has researched the matter to see what could be done.

"There is a program that is apparently a joint program between the state DNR and the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) Aphis Wildlife Services," Ritter said. "And it is designed to essentially eradicate the goose population."

'Doesn't sound like a problem'

Janssen couldn't respond or engage in a long discussion at that time as it wasn't on the agenda.

She asked, however, that the matter be placed on a meeting agenda.

"I was really upset about it when I heard about it," Janssen said of the plans for the Lost Lake goose cull. "I'm an animal lover. I did start researching what was said, what was done ... my whole goal is to ask you to put this as an agenda item for the next town board meeting so we can go over some of the details."

Janssen said she'd sent information to each town board member and has "hard copies" of all of it.

Regarding Ritter's April 28 update

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