

### SPORTSLOOK

#### Charcoal chicken tailgating party

The Chetek-Weyerhaeuser youth wrestling team is hosting the annual charcoal chicken dinner tailgating party prior to the Bulldogs' homecoming game against the Cumberland Beavers on Friday, Oct. 1.

The event is from 5:30-7 p.m. in the C-W High School cafeteria. The cost is \$8 for a quarter chicken dinner or \$10 for a half chicken dinner. The meal also includes garlic potato salad, beans, roll and dessert. All proceeds go to the Chetek-Weyerhaeuser Booster Club/youth wrestling.

After dinner, watch C-W take on Cumberland, beginning at 7 p.m.



#### 2021 Outdoor Family Field Day is Oct. 9

The Barron County Youth Shooting Sports Foundation is hosting the 2021 Family Shooting Sports Fun Day from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. in Rice Lake on Saturday, Oct. 9. All kids under the age of 18 and their families are invited to the free event, located at 1750 24th St., Rice Lake.

The outdoor field day is meant to introduce youths to the world of shooting sports and safe firearms handling under the guidance of hunter safety instructors and mentors.

All youth under 18 years old and their families are welcome, and the event is open to the first 100 youth under 18 years old.

To preregister, visit [www.barroncountyyouthshootingsports.org](http://www.barroncountyyouthshootingsports.org).

#### FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE

##### Football

Friday, Oct. 1  
Cumberland (H)

##### Volleyball

Tuesday, Oct. 5  
Spoooner (A)

##### Girls' Golf

Wednesday, Sept. 29  
Regionals @ Prescott

##### Cross Country

Thursday, Sept. 30  
Ladysmith Invite  
Tuesday, Oct. 5  
Hayward (A)

## Lady Bulldogs improve, win two of six in busy week

The Chetek-Weyerhaeuser varsity volleyball team had a busy week playing six matches last week. Although the Bulldogs won just two of the six matches, they improved as C-W was competitive against all of its opponents.

To start the week, the Bulldogs played at Ladysmith on Sept. 21. The Bulldogs gave a valiant effort, but the Lumberjills defeated the 'Dogs in three sets 25-19, 25-17 and 25-14.

As a team C-W finished with a serving percentage of 88.2%. Junior Sophie Nichols (9 attempts), sophomore Mariah Mitchell (8 attempts, 1 ace) and senior Mariah Bilodeau (11 attempts, 4 aces—both team highs) served perfect on the night. Seniors Greta Jorstad and Kora Clafin also each contributed one ace serve.

"We had a great night receiving and digging the ball. We met our goal as a team as we averaged a 2.04 on serve receive for the night," stated C-W head coach Heather Bohl.

Junior Anna Widiker had a 3.0 pass rating on her only attempt. Mitchell led C-W in attempts with 25 and a 2.16 average, followed by Clafin at 2.12 (17 attempts) and junior Olivia Schofield at 2.11 (9 attempts).

"As a team we struggled attacking the ball and hit negative .105 collectively. Ladysmith is a great blocking team, and we seemed to struggle hitting through the blocks and finding holes in their defense without making errors," coach Bohl noted.

Jorstad was the only C-W

player to finish the night hitting positive at .121 and had a team high 10 kills on 33 attempts. Bilodeau and Schofield each finished the night with 4 kills on 26 attempts. Mitchell contributed 3 kills (17 attempts) and Nichols added 1 kill (20 attempts). Nichols also led the 'Dogs in assists with 10, followed by Jorstad with 6 and Widiker with 2.

Defensively, Mitchell had a team high 18 digs, followed by Schofield with 12 and Jorstad with 9. Jorstad also had the lone solo block of the night.

C-W headed to Cumberland two days later on Thursday, Sept. 23. The Bulldogs jumped out to a 2-0 lead when they edged the Beavers in the first two sets 25-20 and 25-23.

However, Cumberland responded with three consecutive wins to stun C-W and win the match; scores in the final three sets were 25-10, 25-15 and 15-11 in favor of the Beavers.

"We came out on fire against Cumberland. We were doing a great job serving, getting them out of system, blocking their attacks and finding holes in their defense. In set one we had one of our best all-around team performances of the season," Bohl explained. "One thing that is so impressive about these girls is they have been adapting so well to changes we have had to make throughout the season. It is extremely hard to change lineups in volleyball and takes a while to figure out matchups and put together the best combination of players to

SEE BULLDOGS, PAGE B4



TODD ROEHL | LADYSMITH NEWS

The lady Bulldogs volleyball team showed improvement last week, picking up a pair of wins and playing in four other competitive matches that they lost. Pictured above, junior Olivia Schofield rises up for an offensive attack during the Bulldogs match at Ladysmith on Tuesday, Sept. 21. Pictured below is junior Anna Widiker spiking a ball at the net.



## Wisconsin offers early archery season hot spots

Trophy bucks hit the dirt every fall in Wisconsin with dozens of bruisers harvested in the opening weeks of the archery season.

Because deer have not been pressured, early season archery hunting—from mid-September to early-October (before the annual youth gun hunt)—can offer great opportunities to arrow a wall-hanger or provide meat for the family.

Archery hunters should consider pursuing new public properties across the state early in the archery season for a chance to tag out before others even purchase their tags.

#### WESTERN REGION OF WISCONSIN

The western region of the state is often referred to as the big buck Mecca of Wisconsin, with nationally-known counties like Buffalo, Trempleau and La Crosse producing Boone & Crockett bucks year-in and year-out. This region holds a variety of habitat types, ranging from lush river bottoms overlooked by steep

bluffs, to rolling ridge tops contoured by crop land.

"The majority of public hunting land in this region is found along the Mississippi and Wisconsin

Rivers, along with a good size tract in the Kickapoo Valley Reserve," explained Thomas Mlsna, of Untamed Ambition. "All of these areas hold an abundance of

wildlife, including record-book whitetails. However, due to the relatively small amount of public hunting land on this side of the state, there is no shortage

of human pressure."

Mlsna has harvested a handful of trophy bucks in the early season, including his two biggest

SEE DEER, PAGE B2



SUBMITTED PHOTO, TYLER FLORCZAK | CHETEK ALERT

Local residents Eric Holten, at left, and Tyler Florczak, at right, both punched their Wisconsin archery buck tags last week, shooting mature bucks that were active during daylight hours feeding in food plots. Holten, of Prairie Farm, harvested his 138-3/8-inch, 11-point buck on Sept. 21st west of Prairie Farm. The 5.5-year old buck weighed field dressed at 210 pounds. Florczak arrowed his 9-point buck over the weekend east of Chetek in Rusk County. The mature buck green-scored 139-3/8 inches and field dressed 205 pounds. Oddly enough, Holten and Florczak are in a statewide deer hunting tournament (called Quest Hunt Co.) together—team HON Sharpshooters (Holten and Florczak) are currently in second place with their archery bucks. See page B2 for another buck harvested with a bow and arrow this past week by Chetek resident Logan Schultz.



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# DEER: Archery hunters tagging out early—consider public hunting grounds across state

FROM B1

bucks, both in the first week of the archery season—"Candy Man" was the most recent in 2018, grossing 213 6/8 inches, while another buck, referred to as "The Boss", also fell

victim to Mlsna's arrow and grossed 196 6/8 inches.

Besides the Kickapoo Valley Reserve and other public tracts along with Mississippi and Wisconsin Rivers, Mlsna noted that hunters who do their homework can certainly find a

hot spot or two by knocking on doors and searching for private land enrolled in the Open Managed Forest Law program.

He believes a good bet is to find a food source and hunt the adjacent pinch point from or within transi-

tional cover.

"Young alfalfa and emerald-colored soybeans are gold early, but quickly out-shined by white oak acorns," Mlsna added. "Search a topo map for a field with a low back corner that cannot be seen from the road. Play the wind and remember that in hill country, the thermals generally overpower the wind during witching hour."

Mark Rasmussen, DNR wildlife biologist for Buffalo and Trempleau counties, highlighted the Tiffany Wildlife Area in Durand and the Borst Valley Wildlife Area, near Independence, as both hold quality bucks and good-sized deer herds. The Tiffany Wildlife Area is 13,000 acres and Borst Valley is over 1,300 acres—both are dominated by oak trees that provide hot food sources early in the season.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Chetek resident Logan Schultz, pictured with his son, Kaden, harvested this beautiful 10-point buck on Friday, Sept. 25, while hunting on his family farm east of Chetek. Schultz noted that the buck had a 16-inch inside spread, was one of his target bucks and is his biggest buck to date.**

thousands of public acres and is known to produce wall-hangers each fall.

Curt Rollman, a deer biologist for the DNR in the north, highlighted the Oneida County Forest and Marinette County Forest as couple smaller public properties with promising early season archery opportunities.

"Every year there are Boone & Crockett-type bucks that come out of these county forests. The eastern side of the north region tends to have a lot of white oaks," Rollman said.

Rollman mentioned that oak trees are heavily managed on these public properties and county forests.

The western side of the north region, counties such as Barron, Polk, Rusk, Burnett, Washburn all have a healthy amount of agricultural fields, which allows archery hunters to focus on large-scale food sources and travel corridors heading to and from these food sources early in the archery season.

Although there isn't an overabundance of public properties, Barron and Polk counties are also noteworthy, according to Kevin Morgan, DNR wildlife biologist.

"There are some Barron County Forest blocks totaling about 16,000 acres scattered around the county.

Other quality public land in this area includes the Governor Knowles State Forest in the far northwest along the St. Croix River," Morgan said. "Along with quality bucks, both of these counties produce good numbers of deer ... both produce trophy bucks and provide entries every year in the Pope and Young and Boone & Crockett record books."

Besides hitting the typical oak ridges and oak flats, or finding a hot water source during drought season, here's a bold strategy that could pay off early in the archery season while hunting in the Kettle Moraine-Southern Unit: dissect aerial maps and find a couple spots where the state forest land borders subdivisions. Deer like to feed at bird feeders, gardens, etc. and will often tolerate minimal human activity and noises while bedding within a few hundred yards of these subdivisions. Set up on the right trail and you may harvest a once-in-a-lifetime deer.

Some of the parks around Dane County are part of the Dane County Parks Hunting Lottery Program. There are more than 20 properties in this program, which gives opportunities to explore some new areas with low hunting pressure.

The Lower Wisconsin Riverway is known as another early season archery hot spot, although several spots are only accessibly by boat/canoe.

Maximize your early season archery hunting opportunities this fall and take a chance on some new public land. Hopefully, it leads to a trophy buck before breeding season hits.

However, it receives a good amount of hunting pressure as the calendar flips to October. Being one of the first archery hunters out is critical in

**SEPTEMBER 1—NOVEMBER 30, 2021**

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**NORTH REGION OF WISCONSIN**

Hunters will see the steep bluffs and ridges subside to flatter land in the northern region. The northwestern part of the state is covered with farmland and mixed hardwoods, while the land turns into dense hardwoods and conifer forests as one travels further north and east in this region.

There are literally millions of acres of public land to hunt in the north region of the state, specifically the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. The Flambeau River State Park is another viable option with

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**EASTERN REGION OF WISCONSIN**

The ecological landscape found in the eastern region of the state, specifically the southeastern area of this region, is the glacial plains. This means in the pre-till Wisconsin time period, the landscape was mostly flat and broken up by the many river systems and swamps that can be found here. Now, the fertile dirt provides a great opportunity from a row crop perspective and that's what hunters will find here.

When searching for mature deer in this area during the early archery season, hunters need to find premier bedding habitat. The next necessity is early season forage, whether it is soybeans, alfalfa or clover—the No. 1 attractant for deer in this area during the early weeks of the season.

The Kettle Moraine State Forest-Northern Unit, which stretches 30 miles across Sheboygan, Fond du Lac and Washington Counties, is big buck haven. However, it receives a good amount of hunting pressure as the calendar flips to October. Being one of the first archery hunters out is critical in

**TOWN OF DOVRE RESIDENTS**

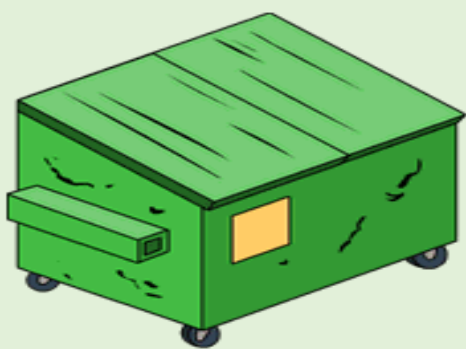
FALL CLEANUP DAYS

304 25 ½ Street, Chetek, WI 54728

October 16, 2021

8:00 – 3:00

**SATURDAY ONLY!**



ITEMS ACCEPTED INCLUDE: appliances, electronics, metals, mattresses/box springs, etc. Limited to one truck or trailer load per household. Additional charges include: \$3 per tire, \$15 per box spring/mattress, \$20 small TV, \$30 large TV

ITEMS THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED INCLUDE: roofing shingles, bricks/concrete, hazardous materials (oil, paint, pesticides, fluorescent lights, items which contained refrigerant), brush/limbs/yard waste, and household garbage

*Cleanup is for residential properties only, no businesses.*

*Proof of Town property ownership or residency may be required.*