



THE LAKELAND TIMES

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HONORING OUR NATION'S HEROES ON MEMORIAL DAY

With this edition of The Lakeland Times, the annual Fallen Heroes for Memorial Day, this year marks the 20th anniversary of the war in Iraq.

Also included is a list of Memorial Day and weekend ceremonies and observances in the Lakeland area. The listing can be found on page 14.

The staff at The Lakeland Times is proud to offer our readers this important special section and listing of events.

We, too, remember.

LUHS student repeatedly punches another; video of it posted publicly

Smudde: 'Students will be disciplined to the fullest extent of our ability'

By Trevor Greene
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

One female student was captured on video punching another female student in the face repeatedly just outside one of the bathrooms at Lakeland Union High School (LUHS) dur-

ing school last Wednesday, May 17. The video was subsequently posted to Facebook for all to see.

After the attack, the girl who repeatedly punched the other girl in the face can be seen being greeted by four other students in

the bathroom — one even giving her a high-five.

During the attack, the student filming can be heard encouraging the girl who was attacking the other one. The student who was filming also ac-

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Oneida County zoning committee votes to hire outside counsel

Supervisors edge closer to fight with DNR over shoreland ordinance

By Richard Moore
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

With frustration building over the state's unwillingness to allow Oneida County to amend its shoreland ordinance to allow what other counties have routinely permitted, the Oneida County zoning committee has voted to seek outside legal counsel to determine if it can wage a reasonable fight against the agency.

The county is trying to amend the ordinance to allow what supervisors call common-sense measures that will also expedite permitting. The proposed changes were sparked by requests from Lakeland area and Oneida County landscapers and contractors last year.

A public hearing has been held, and at a recent meeting the committee continued to deliberate the proposed ordinance, especially where its interpretations of state law differ from what the DNR says the county can do.

A major discrepancy is a proposed ordinance amendment allowing stairs to be placed on the exterior side of a boathouse to gain access to a flat roof, to a maximum width of five feet. The ordinance would also allow four-foot wide concrete aprons placed between the boathouse and the ordinary high water mark (OHWM), while boat launch pads

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WHY WE'RE GREEN

The cover of *The Lakeland Times* has gone green today to observe May as Lyme Disease Awareness Month.

The number of Lyme disease cases has more than doubled in the state in the last decade, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

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TREVOR GREENE/LAKELAND TIMES

North Lakeland School student Ruthie Turner carries the Stars and Stripes on an opening lap to open the Scholl Community Impact Group's fourth annual student horse show with a horse named Flip on Saturday, May 20, in Winchester.

LdF tribal boat landing procedures announced

By Brian Jopek
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

The tribal council of the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians in January passed a resolution that closed boat landings on tribal land to non-tribal members.

The tribal council's resolution states that the council "approves the temporary closure of Tribal Boat Landings on Tribal Lands to non-members until a Permit

Process is in place."

That permitting process for Lac du Flambeau campground and tribal landing boat launch procedures was recently listed on the web page of the Lac du Flambeau Business Development Corporation (LDFBDC).

"All access (unless an enrolled member of the Lac du Flambeau Tribe) to the Lac du Flambeau Boat Launch requires a launch pass that

See **Landings**. . . page 31

Scholl Community Impact Group's annual horse show returns

Unique student-horse relationships take center stage

By Trevor Greene
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

On May 20, the annual Scholl Community Impact Group's student horse show was back for a fourth time after not happening the last couple years.

The horse show, accord-

ing to Scholl Community Impact Group founder and director Lennelle Scholl, is a chance for students to showcase to their friends and family not only their horse riding skills, but the strong relationships they've built

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Boulder Junction town-wide garage sale Memorial Day weekend

The Boulder Junction town-wide garage sale will be held over Memorial Day weekend, Friday, May 26, through Sunday, May 28.

We invite all Boulder Junction area residents and businesses to participate. Please contact the chamber office if you are planning to have a sale that weekend. We would be happy to add your sale listing on our map which will be available to shoppers and visitors the week of the sale both in print and on boulderjct.org.

All participants will be required to submit your name, address, phone number, dates and times of your sale, along with a brief description of the items you will have available. Cost to participate is \$10 per listing. Deadline for participation is Friday, May 19, at noon.

For more information, please stop by our office or call 715-385-2400.

Colorado man drowns in Black Oak Lake in the town of Land O'Lakes

By Brian Jopek

OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

A 62 year-old Colorado man drowned early Monday in Black Oak Lake in the town of Land O'Lakes.

Pat Schmidt, chief deputy for the Vilas County Sheriff's Office, said in a press release he issued Tuesday the dispatch center received a 911 call at around 1:45 p.m. Monday reporting a boater witnessed a tipped over canoe.

"Upon investigation, the witness observed a subject with no life-jacket on sinking below the canoe," Schmidt said in the press release. "Emergency crews responded to the scene and a large search was conducted. The searchers

worked until dusk with no result."

He said the body of the man, later identified as Michael Stierer of Edwards, Colorado, was recovered at around 11:45 p.m. Tuesday.

"The cause of the drowning has been determined as an accident," Schmidt said in the press release. "The male subject was not wearing a life jacket at the time of the incident. The Vilas County Sheriff's Office would like to remind everyone to have and wear appropriate life jackets while enjoying all water related activities."

Brian Jopek may be reached via email at bjopek@lakeland-times.com.

Fire heavily damages Eagle River apartment building

By Brian Jopek

OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

An early morning fire heavily damaged an Eagle River apartment building on Tuesday.

According to a press release from Det. Sgt. Ryan Rossing with the Eagle River police department, the fire was reported at 4:17 a.m.

"Fire department personnel were able to contain and ultimately extinguish the fire," he said in the press release. "Approximately 20 people have been displaced by the fire."

Rossing said the fire "does not appear to be suspicious" and the Eagle River fire department is continuing the investigation into a cause for the blaze.

In the meantime, the local chapter of the Ameri-

can Red Cross, one of several agencies who have stepped forward to help the people displaced by the fire, issued a press release of its own, stating the Vilas County Department of Social Services has opened a shelter for those people and the Red Cross is supporting the shelter.

The temporary shelter opened at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the Eagle River Elementary School.

"Anyone displaced by this fire is welcome to join us for a comfortable place to stay, food and other essentials," the Red Cross press release said. "We are asking anyone displaced by this fire and who needs assistance to please call the Red Cross at 1-833-583-3111."

Brian Jopek may be reached via email at bjopek@lakelandtimes.com.

Violence

From page 1

cused the girl being hit as a "racist."

Both the student filming and the one who was punching the other girl continued to call her expletive names until the end. The student filming put her camera as close to the girl's face as possible after the attack, while she got up and ran away.

Everyone involved appeared to be female students, with the girl who attacked the other girl appearing to be Native American and the girl being attacked appearing to be white.

In a statement shared with the *Times* Tuesday, district administrator Bob Smudde confirmed the attack was between two females in the women's bathroom. He did not mention race playing any role in the situation.

"Furthermore, there were several students that witnessed the incident and one student who recorded the incident on their cell phone," he said in the statement. "The perpetrator and individuals

involved in the physical altercation and video, will be disciplined in accordance with Lakeland Union High School Policy and Procedures."

Smudde made it clear LUHS does not condone violence for any reason. He said the students who do engage in such acts "will not be welcome in our school building as our primary focus is keeping students and staff safe."

"Though incidents like this are extremely rare, we believe we need to be and do better for our school community," he said.

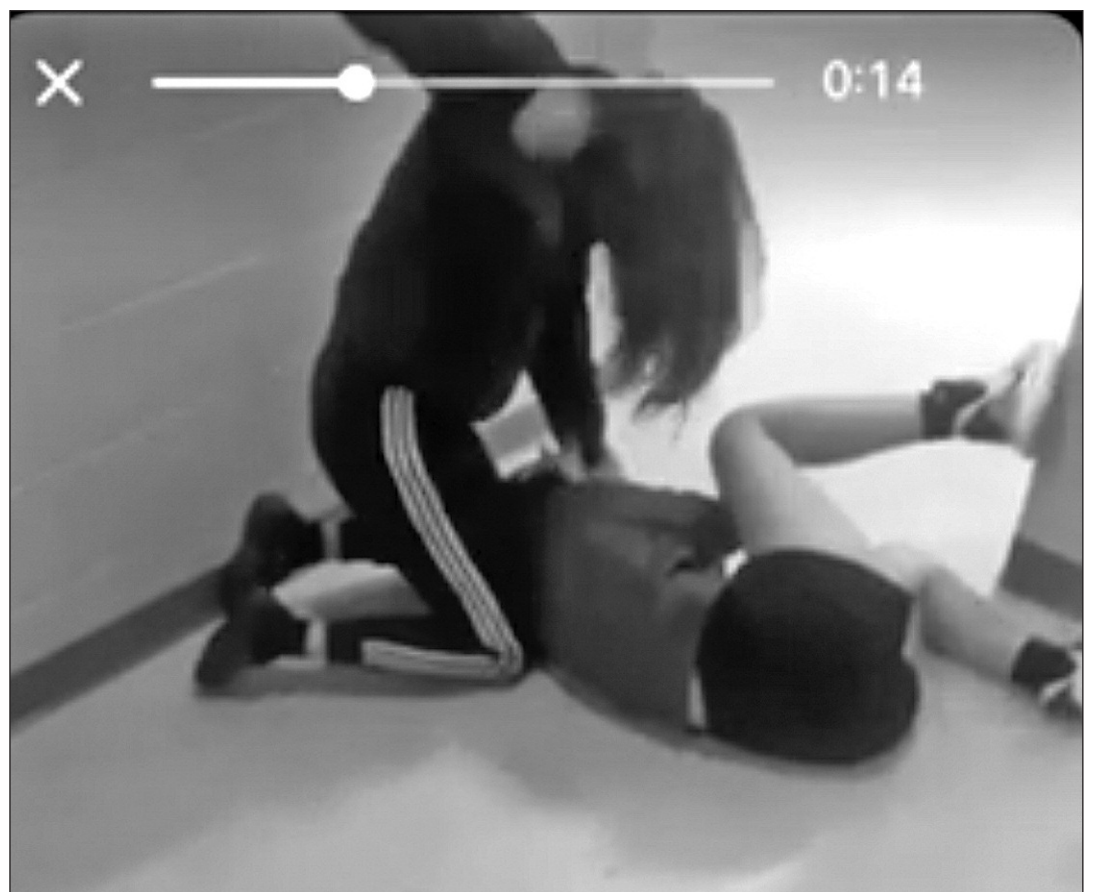
The district's administration, Smudde noted, have identified a number of factors that could have contributed to the violence that was video-taped.

"First off there were a large number of substitute teachers in the building and several events going on throughout the school day," he said.

"There was more student movement than on a 'regular' school day, coupled with staff that did not know the students, aided in students being out of class when they should not have been. Furthermore, we have

"Furthermore, there were several students that witnessed the incident and one student who recorded the incident on their cell phone."

Bob Smudde
LUHS district administrator



CONTRIBUTED IMAGE

In a screenshot from a video posted to Facebook by a student at Lakeland Union High School, one female student can be seen right before punching another female student in the head just outside one of the school's bathrooms during school on Wednesday, May 17.

clearly seen through the evidence that cell phone usage is a major contributing factor in student to student communication creating this opportunity for physical aggression."

As the district administrator, Smudde said he takes responsibility in creating a "better and safer environment" for all students and staff.

He added the district will be making changes in its policy and practices going forward because there is an "obligation to limit such behavior" as much as possible.

"Again, we take safety of our school incredibly seriously, and that responsibility rests on our ability to control our school environment," Smudde said.

"Those who believe such behavior as physical violence was warranted are wrong, that is never the correct outcome. If such behavior occurs, students will be disciplined to the fullest extent of our ability."

Trevor Greene may be reached via email at trevorgreene@lakeland-times.com.

Zoning

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"And they had no idea this was going on?" he asked.

Holewinski returned to the idea of hiring outside counsel. Timmons agreed, saying things were only going to get worse the deeper the committee dug into the language. Almekinder said the committee had already agreed to the changes that needed to be made.

"We can keep going over this but we've already agreed on this," Almekinder said.

Jennrich said the committee had three options: Take comments made by the public at a recent public hearing and make modifications; forward the proposed ordinance on to the county board as is; or hire outside counsel to review or assist them.

Holewinski said the third option was his preference.

"I think personally what I'd like to do is see if we can get outside coun-

sel to come, go through this ordinance with us, and tell us, do we have a fight?" he said. "Can we stand on our feet for this?"

Another issue was clear cutting in the viewing corridor and that sparked some discussion about practices in other counties as well. Then Timmons made a motion that the committee look into outside counsel to help the committee finish the ordinance amendment.

During discussion, Holewinski said he would prefer hiring

Konopacki if possible.

"He was the legal counsel for legislators [during the shoreland rewrite] and we participated with him at a few meetings where he represented legislators at those meetings," he said. "So he would certainly know the intent of what the legislators wanted back then. And he's in the private sector."

The motion passed unanimously. *Richard Moore is the author of "Dark State" and may be reached at richardd3d.substack.com.*