

New reporter alert!

Trevor Greene of *The Lakeland Times*

Kelly Holm

OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

Over the last month or so, you'll likely have seen a couple of new bylines popping up as you read *The Lakeland Times*. One is mine. The other is Trevor Greene, who started writing for the *Times* about a week before me. Greene was born and raised in the Milwaukee area, and graduated

See **Greene**. . . page 19



Greene

Kelly Holm of *The Lakeland Times*

By Trevor Greene

OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

Like myself, Kelly Holm is a new reporter for *The Lakeland Times*. Holm is a Wisconsin native who grew up right across the border from the Twin Cities in Hudson. She attended Hamline University in St. Paul, Minn.

While at school, Holm participated in a work-study pro-



Holm

See **Holm**. . . page 37

Greene

From page 1

from Pewaukee High School before attending the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Initially, Greene was unsure about which career path to pursue. He'd worked at various golf courses in Waukesha County since he was a teen, and initially considered business and human resources, but decided it was not the right fit for him before choosing an English major.

From there, Greene thought he might attend law school, which he attributed to an increased interest in politics. Midway through the application process, however, he realized that he was more interested in writing about law and policy than practicing it.

The Lakeland Times is Greene's first media job, and as we interviewed each other, I learned a lot about his motivations and how he came to arrive in the Lakeland area. Hopefully, you

will finish this profile feeling like you know him better, too.

How old are you, Trevor?

"26."

Do you have siblings?

"My (older) sister lives on a mountain in Colorado. My brother — he's a year younger than me — lives in Pewaukee."

What were your hobbies growing up?

"I was into music and sports, and the outdoors. I played a lot of baseball and football in the backyard, and I would go bow hunting and gun hunting for deer, and I'd fish. We'd go up north every summer. I volunteered at a couple of different community nonprofit organizations."

Had you ever been to Minocqua before this summer?

"I had not."

Why did you choose to apply to *The Lakeland Times*?

"I knew *The Lakeland Times* was very historic and is very reputable. I'd heard a lot of good things about the (Lakeland) area, and people that I know back in Waukesha love it. Obviously

I love the state of Wisconsin."

Had you ever worked or written for a news organization before?

"I've sent in different letters to the editor, but they never got published."

Did you read the newspaper in your hometown?

"I was a very avid reader of the Waukesha Freeman and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, and I still am. The Freeman definitely kind of is what made me want to write for a newspaper, just because I enjoyed reading it so much, and I looked forward to it every single day."
What made you gravitate specifically to government and policy reporting?

"It's something that I never was super interested in growing up, and I wasn't very exposed to it as a kid growing up, and so I was curious as to what was kind of going on, and I tried to figure out the political landscape myself. It's very intriguing, especially the times we live in now. It's nice to know what's going on in the world, and who's running it. I want to get to

know the community in all aspects."

What have been your favorite stories to cover so far?

"The two main things would be community features and local government. When I covered a forestry meeting I thought it was really interesting ... I find it fascinating to hear about issues involving the DNR, because I noticed that the DNR is a lot more prevalent and relevant up here in the (Lakeland) area than it was back where I'm from. I notice it more, anyways."

What have you done in your free time since coming to the Lakeland area?

"I golfed a couple of times at some courses in the area. I went and saw a movie at the Lakeland movie theater. I've gone to a handful of restaurants, which were all really good ... I went fishing once over on Cunard Lake."
What did you gain from your previous work experience?

"I worked at a lot of different golf courses in the Waukesha County area, publicly owned and privately. I pretty much got to know the golf industry in-

side and out, and I got to know a lot of the community through golf. It's a very huge passion in Waukesha County ... I had a hobby that would last me a lifetime."

What are your favorite books?

"I don't have a favorite book, but I love to read; it's definitely one of my favorite pastimes. I really like early to mid-20th century literature. I like mysteries. I like travel fiction, and currently I'm reading Elena Ferrante's 'Neapolitan Quartet'."

Favorite movie?

"I'd probably have to go with 'Caddyshack.'"

What sports teams do you root for?

"The Green Bay Packers, Milwaukee Brewers, and the Milwaukee Bucks."

What do you hope to accomplish at *The Lakeland Times*?

"I want to have quality work that is accurate as it can be, and I want to be the best journalist I can be. I think it's important to become part of the community, and integrate into the community I live in and the community I'm covering."

Holm

From page 1

gram for *The Oracle*, her school newspaper. She was timid to take on more “daunting” tasks at first, but after she won a few awards for her reporting and creative writing in school, she gained the confidence which allowed her to gain much more success in the short time that followed.

That was at the *Osceola Sun*, in Osceola, where Holm interned, and where she picked up some more accolades; winning a couple of awards from the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

Recently, I sat down with the new *Times* reporter, and interviewed her in order to better understand who she is, and what her journey to *The Lakeland Times* entailed. By answering questions posed, you will hopefully get to know Holm and what she’s all about, just as much as I did.

How old are you, Kelly?

“I’m 23.”

Can you tell me a little bit about Hudson?

“It’s right on the border of Minnesota and Wisconsin, so it’s part of the Twin Cities metro area ... it’s about 12,000 (in population), I want to say.” **What was it like growing up so close to the Twin Cities?**

“It was really cool because there’s a lot of theatre and stuff there that I’ve always been into. And most of my family is from that area.”

Holm added that she was in a lot of plays and musicals that were part of community theatres around her hometown. She noted her favorite plays were “Les Misérables,” “The Pirates of Penzance,” and “Bye Bye Birdie.” She also added, “I was in a lot of plays and musicals ... I’ve been in ‘Bye Bye Birdie,’ ‘Pirates of Penzance,’ ‘Annie’ and ‘The Little Mermaid’ were probably some of the most famous plays I was in.”

What was your major again?

“English and Creative Writing ... it was a double major, but since there was a lot of overlap it was more like a major and a minor.” **Was there a specific class that you really loved or remembered?**

“I really enjoyed my literary publishing class.”

Did you read the newspaper in your hometown?

“Yea, it’s the *Hudson Star Observer*, well it’s just the *Star Observer* now. It and two other papers in neighboring towns kind of merged into one newspaper, so now it’s just the *Star Observer* ... I wasn’t a huge reader of the newspaper growing up, and I didn’t really realize that I wanted to pursue journalism until my first year at college when I decided to join the newspaper staff. It was definitely kind of daunting at first, and I was initially scared to

take on more heavy-hitting topics, but when I won my first award that spring, that really was a huge push for me to step up and do more challenging work.” **What (section) do you usually gravitate to when you open up a newspaper?**

“I enjoy arts and entertainment and opinion and just features and investigative work in general.”

Do you have any genre specific types of writing that you believe are your specialty?

“Definitely features reporting and human interest stories. I’ve done some investigative type work before, and I hope to continue that.”

What are you excited to learn more with your new position here?

“Just getting to know more about how local government operates, and getting to know the different stories and cultures that make up the surrounding community.”

On a separate note, and more of the fun questions; do you have a favorite book?

“I really enjoy reading in general. I don’t know if there’s one specific book I’d consider my favorite. It’s definitely one of my main past-times.” **What about movies?**

“I really like the movie ‘Young Adult’ with Charlize Theron and ‘Inside Out,’ the Pixar Movie.”

Any favorite TV shows?

“American Idol. I don’t watch much TV, but I kind of got back into watching it during the COVID-19 Quarantine. But growing up it was a show that I really enjoyed watching while I was in elementary school.”

You mentioned reading as one of the main things you do in your past-time, but what are some other things you do in your past-time?

“I’m into music. I was in choir for a long time growing up. I don’t sing as much anymore, but I

still do sometimes and ... I like going thrifting and just exploring new places with friends.”

Pepsi or Coke?

“Coke.”

Cats or Dogs?

“Well I have a dog so I’m kind of obligated to say dog, but I like cats too.”

Pizza or Tacos?

“Pizza.”

Summer or Winter?

“Summer.”

iphone or Android?

“iphone.”

Fruits or Vegetables?

“Fruits.”

And is there anything else that you would like the people of the Lakeland area to know about you?

“Just that I am really excited to be here and to start getting to know the community. And hopefully putting out work that makes you more informed about the area and about your neighbors.”

Trevor Greene may be reached via email at trevorgreene@lakelandtimes.com.

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