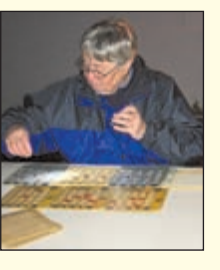




IN THIS ISSUE

More 1% tax debate
PAGE..... A2



Bingo disaster
PAGE..... A3



Herbicide treatment in County
PAGE..... A9



Fisherman's wrap-up
PAGE.... A13-B3



Hoopin' in the Harbor
PAGE..... B5

INDEX

Business Directory
PAGE..... A6

Community Calendar
PAGE..... A11

Classifieds
PAGE..... B6

Gene's Foods IGA
PAGE..... B8

Johnson's Foods
PAGE..... A16



Staff photo/Rhonda Silence
First and second place winners in the Fisherman's Picnic minnow races, Ben Boeckenstedt, 6, Edina, MN and Micaela Steenstra, of Quasqueton, IA cheer on their minnows as little Cade Duncan, 3, of St. Louis, MO waits for his turn.

Fisherman's Picnic



Staff photos/Laurie Johnson
Above: The Duluth Shriners entertained parade watchers with a calliope. **Right:** Brad Tavernier of Grand Marais won the Grand Marais Idol competition with his hilarious rendition of *Bohemian Rhapsody*. More Fisherman's Picnic memories inside!



Park board defends Master Plan process

Jane Howard
After the Grand Marais Park Board presented its long-term Recreation Area Master Plan to the public July 28, questions arose from those who were not happy with the final product.

Critics of the plan did not like the park board's decision to keep its northeastern corner open to campers rather than turn it into community green space and to delineate only its current acre of wetland rather than restore three other acres that were wetlands in the past.

At the July 28 meeting, board chair Lindsay Mielke announced that the board would no longer be using the services of its consultant, Bob Bruce, who had advocated a site plan that eliminated campsites from the northeast corner and restored all four acres of wetland.

At the June 23 park board ses- » Continued on...page A4

Pipe bomb explodes at Point

Rhonda Silence
Participants in Friday night Fisherman's Picnic festivities in downtown Grand Marais were startled by the sound of a loud explosion at 9:01 p.m. After the mysterious detonation, a large cloud of white smoke appeared over The Point. Cook County Sheriff Deputies found shrapnel from a 4-inch by 24-inch pipe on the east bay side of Artist's Point, just east of the US Coast Guard and US Customs and Border Patrol building.

Since the Point is National Forest Service property, Conservation Officer Barry Huber is investigating the matter. Huber said the explosion occurred on the natural rocks just off the east bay beach. He said fortunately there was no "observable, distinguishable damage" from the explosion.

Huber said he suspects that the explosion was set off by some young people, just wondering if they could make it work. However, if the culprits are caught they will be charged with "discharge of a device capable of taking life or causing injury." Huber said since no one was injured and there was no damage, the charges would most likely be at the misdemeanor level.

Seen in the area at the time of the explosion were two juvenile males, about 14 - 15 years of age, one wearing a red T-shirt with below-knee length shorts and the other a brown T-shirt and long pants, color unknown. It is unknown if they were involved.

Anyone with information about the explosion is asked to contact Conservation Officer Huber at (218) 387-3232.

Fisherman's Picnic tradition of exemplary citizens

Rhonda Silence
A time-honored tradition of Cook County's Fisherman's Picnic is the Grand Marais Lions Club selection of exemplary citizens and graduates. The community members receiving these special awards were announced on the windy Harbor Park stage on Saturday, August 1, 2009.

Lion Rosemary Lamson was delighted to announce that the Senior Citizens of the Year for 2009 are **Gladys and George "Whitey" Dockan** of Grand Marais. The Dockans were recognized for numerous reasons, but foremost for their positive attitude toward life.

Gladys is an active member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church and its quilting group. For many, many, years she has visited residents of the Nursing Home and Care Center, lifting spirits by doing hair. She keeps a beautiful garden at their Grand Marais home and frequently shares plants with others. She is an American Cancer Society volunteer and single-handedly raised in excess of \$10,000 for the ACS Relay for Life to fight cancer.

Whitey, at age 86, is great supporter of the Grand Marais Municipal Pool, visiting for a swim nearly every day. The nomination declares, "Anyone who meets Whitey and experiences his ever-present sense of humor will come away with a smile on his or her face."

Whitey displayed his fun-loving and caring attitude when he and Gladys prepared for their ride in a convertible in the Fisherman's Picnic parade. A family member teased, asking if he knew why



Staff photo/Rhonda Silence
Top: Citizen of the Year Dick Parker and Senior Citizens of the Year Gladys and George "Whitey" Dockan.
Staff photo/Laurie Johnson
Far Left: Cook County High School 2009 Exemplary Graduate Tara Austin
Photo courtesy of the family
Left: Another CCHS Exemplary Grad Kostya Senty

he was being treated to the special ride, to which Whitey replied, "Because I've got the best woman in town!"
The nomination added, "Gladys and Whitey are treasures to us all. They are part of the fabric of this community. They are hardworking, upstanding, friendly, and fun. They represent what is best about the people here."
Lamson then announced that **Richard "Dick" Parker** was nominated for the honor of Citizen of the Year by a number of different organizations—the Cook County Snowmobile Club, the Maple Hill Community Fire Department, and the Cook County ATV Club. His

nomination received letters of support from others—Bethlehem Lutheran Church, the John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon, and the Mush for a Cure. He has served on others—the Cook County Firewise Committee, the Ham Run Half Marathon, the Cook County Biomass Committee and more.

Over and over those nominating Dick said he is the "go-to-guy" for their organization. The Maple Hill Fire Department said it, adding that Dick is "always supportive and encouraging of others, gracefully tackling the tough issues, never seeking personal credit, but usually the first to bestow it on others."

DNR Conservation Officer Darin Fagerman, who said he appreciates Dick's support with firearm, ATV, and snowmobile safety said, "If you look in the dictionary next to volunteer, you will see Richard "Dick" Parker's picture. He is what voluntarism is all about. He doesn't just show up, he puts his heart and soul into everything he does."

Grand Marais Lioness Bev Denyes then took to the microphone to announce the 2009 Cook County High School graduates to receive Exemplary Graduate honors. She welcomed **Tara Austin** to the stage, commending her for her numerous activities, such as volleyball, Art Club and Student Council. Also honored was **Kostya Senty**, who was not present to receive his accolades. Kostya plans to attend the Diving Institute of Technology in Seattle, Washington.

Congratulations to all of the honorees—students and citizens—who do so much to make our community a better place to live!