



WabanaTownship

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Community News & Gallery

Send your .jpg photos and news to Loree Miltich Lmiltich@aol.com for inclusion here.

WCOLA's ANNUAL PICNIC

WABANA CHAIN OF LAKES PICNIC

The Wabana Chain of Lakes Association is again sponsoring an old fashioned outdoor picnic with food, beverages, and outdoor activities. If you didn't make it last year, be sure to put it on your calendar for Saturday, July 19, 2014, beginning at 4:30pm for outdoor activities and socializing. Come and join us, and all your lakeshore neighbors and friends at the Wabana Town Hall Pavilion. Our picnic meal begins at 5:30pm. We hope to see you there.

2014 ANNUAL MEETING NEWS

Wabana's 2014 Annual Meeting was held on March 11th. Residents in attendance elected Marvin Ott to chair the meeting and acted on the following:

- **Approved the 2015 Levy:**

General: \$61,300 Fire: \$22,000

Road & Bridge: \$42,700 Reserve: \$1,000

- **Road Contracts**

The contract for plowing and dust control was awarded to Itasca County, and the contract for grading was awarded to Wm. Schwartz, and Sons.

- **Service Contracts**

Citizens supported requests for service contracts from: Itasca Little League, First Call for Help, Elder Circle, Home Visitor Program, Itasca County Agricultural Association, Itasca County Historical Society, MN Highway 38 Leadership Board, Support Within Reach, and Second Harvest Food Bank. After a presentation from members of the Itasca Water Legacy Partnership about their initiative to educate Wabana Lake boaters about preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species, township residents voted to support the request and instructed supervisors to proceed with research and implementation.

- **2013 Citizen of the Year:** David Lick was awarded the 2013 "Citizen of the Year" for his leadership in protecting Wabana lakes, waters and environment.



David Lick receives the 2013 "Citizen of the Year" award from supervisors Bud Sage and Lloyd Adams

Help Plan for this year's Hunters' Supper!

Jean Koewler writes: "There will be a meeting to plan the annual Wabana Deer Hunters' Supper on Monday, September 16. We will meet at the Wabana Town Hall at 6:00 p.m.

The deer hunters' supper is the community's fundraiser to support scholarships, the children's Christmas party, the ice cream social, and funeral lunches. Two \$500 scholarships were presented in the spring to Wabana citizens that graduated from high school and are attending post-secondary.

The Hunters' Supper will take place on November 9.

Everyone is encouraged to attend the planning meeting on Monday. Everyone's help is needed to make the supper a success."

WCOLA August 17th Meeting on Invasive Species

Jean Koewler reports that, "Mary Blickenderfer will be the presenter at the **August 17th WCOLA** meeting. She will be doing a "hands on" invasive species presentation. Mary will have a power point presentation and bring live plants to teach identification of the four invasive aquatic plants. The coffee will be ready at 8:30 at the Wabana Town Hall with Mary Blickenderfer's presentation beginning at 9:00." Everyone is welcome to attend.

2013 ANNUAL MEETING

There were not many who attended Wabana's Annual Meeting, but we are grateful to those who took the time to attend!

Wabana residents who attended the meeting approved the following levy for 2014:

General	\$57,900
Road & Bridge	\$42,000
Fire	\$24,000
Reserve	\$1,500

The total levy is approximately \$20,000 more than last year because we are putting aside \$10,000 to re-do the rink and another \$10,000 to repave the Hall parking lot.

Low-Interest loans available to upgrade septic systems

Commissioner Terry Snyder informs the Wabana Town Board at a recent meeting that Itasca County has a low interest loan program to upgrade septs. Here's the article about the program from the MPA:

"The Minnesota Department of Agriculture has \$20 million available for low-interest loans to help farmers and rural landowners finance projects that prevent or reduce water pollution.

The funding is made available through the MDA's Agricultural Best Management Practices (AgBMP) Loan Program and is available in all counties in the state. The AgBMP Loan Program works with Soil and Water Conservation Districts and local governments to help farmers, rural landowners and agriculture-related businesses solve pollution problems by offering loans at three percent interest through participating local lenders.

All practices that reduce water pollution are eligible, such as fixing septic systems, replacing contaminated wells, upgrading livestock facilities, constructing erosion control structures, purchasing conservation tillage equipment, improving chemical application and storage methods, and adopting other water-related best management practices."

For more information, contact contact Rita J. Quesnell at Itasca County Environmental Services 327-2857 or Noel Griese at Itasca County SWDC 326-0017.

2012 Deer Hunter's Supper a Success

The word is in that this year's Hunter's Supper brought in more money than last year to support the scholarships and other good work of the Wabana Community Fund! Thanks to Sally Wilbur and all the volunteers for making this year's Hunter's Supper another delicious and successful event!

Thanks, too, to the following individuals and groups for donations to the raffle: Minnesota Deer Hunter's Association, Ogle's, William Schwartz & Sons, The Fordhams, Carol Speedling, Esther Wakeman and Annette, Sally Wilbur, Betty Brasgala, and Margaret Morris .



Renting the Town Hall

The Town Board approved a new, updated rental contract for using the Town Hall. A copy is attached below. Call Clerk Ruth Fordham if you're interested in reserving the Town Hall for your event.

Renewing a Tradition ~ 2011 Wabana Christmas Party!

The Wabana Christmas Party was held on Saturday, December 3rd and was a great success!. The party was a project of the Wabana Community Fund. Here are some photos of the children.





Date for 2011 Deer Hunters' Supper Set

The annual Deer Hunter's Supper will be held on Saturday, **November 5, 5 to 8 PM**, at the Wabana Community Center. There are lots of opportunities to help by baking turkeys in advance, cooking and serving at the supper, or donating bars. If you would like to help in any capacity, contact Sally Wilbur at 327-4055.

Wabana Community Fund Announces 2012 Scholarship

Any Wabana resident who plans to attend college in the fall of 2012 may apply for a scholarship from the Wabana Community Fund. Applications are due by April 27th. See Application form in Handout

Great time was had by all at the 2011 Ice Cream Social

*The annual event was held on Aug. 12th at the Town Hall and was a joint effort of **WCOLA** and **Wabana Community Fund**.*







Introducing Sarah Verke, new editor of the Wabana Warbler

Hearty thanks to Arlene Wheaton for her terrific service to the township as editor of the Wabana Warbler, and welcome to Sarah Verke who will take over as editor!

Sarah writes: "I am married to Aaron Verke and I have two children, Sophia(6) and Graham(3). We have lived in the Wabana area for 8 years. I work part time for the DNR in the Ecological and Water Resources division as an Office Assistant, and I am going to school for Web Design. My family and I love living in this area, and I am excited to be the new editor for the Warbler. In addition to some fun work, I am hoping to meet some of our neighbors!"

Contact Sarah at: 218-327-3433, or underthepines@msn.com with any news for our quarterly newsletter.



TENNIS COURT RESURFACING PROJECT COMPLETED
We're excited that the tennis court resurfacing project has been completed with a Flex Court International product which was recommended by the US Tennis Association. Come over and try it out!



Mary Klacan (right), of Wabana (Bluewater) and Wayzata and Emma Todd (left), granddaughter of Mary Klacan, who is from New Ulm, try out the new tennis court.

WABANA COMMUNITY FUND AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS



Lloyd Adams presented the Wabana Community Fund scholarships at the Grand Rapids High School Award ceremony.

Pictured, from left, are Matthew Ruder, Dacota Green, Lloyd Adams, Lucas Pitts and Jessica Loucks.

Scholarship Committee

May 5, 2011

Attendance: Lloyd Adams, Sally Wilbur, Jean Koewler, Donna Anderson

Applications were received from:

Miranda Bocinsky - She plans to attend Itasca Community College in the fall.

Dacota Greene – He plans to attend Mesabi Range Technical College to become a millwright.

Jessica Loucks – She plans to attend Ohio State University to get a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering.

Chloe Pitts – She is attending the University of Minnesota Duluth to earn a bachelor's degree in biology with a minor in psychology. Then she plans to complete the doctor of veterinary medicine degree at either the University of Minnesota or Michigan State University.

Lucas M. Pitts – He plans to attend Itasca Community College for two years in the pre-engineering program. Then he plans to transfer to the University of North Dakota to complete the engineering degree.

Matthew Ruder – He plans to attend Mesabi Range Technical College to earn a degree as a millwright.

A motion was made by Sally Wilbur and seconded by Jean Koewler to give a \$500.00 scholarship to each of the applicants. The motion was approved.

Lloyd Adams will call each of the recipients and present the scholarships at the high school awards program.

The recipients will receive their scholarship money when they send in a copy of their letter of acceptance and a copy of their schedule.

ANNUAL MEETING - March 8, 2011

Residents gathered on Tuesday, March 8th at the Town Hall for the Annual Meeting. Gary Oja was elected moderator. Among township business discussed: supervisor Sage reported on township roads and residents voted to award the contract for grading to Schwartz & Sons. The snowplow contract was awarded to Itasca County. Ideas for new projects were discussed including finishing the tennis court installation this spring, refinishing the floor in the hall, saving for new playground equipment, and preparing to rehab the boards on the rink.



*After discussion, residents voted on the **2012 Levy**:*

Road and Bridge: \$37,000

Fire: \$24,200

General: \$51,500

Reserve: \$1,500

A report was made on progress in revising cemetery rules and regulations to allow for monuments and markers, as well as providing specifics regarding burial of cremation urns.

Gary Oja served as moderator

The *CITIZEN OF THE YEAR* award was presented to Esther Wakeman. Congratulations, Esther!



Esther Wakeman accepts **CITIZEN OF THE YEAR** award from supervisors Bud Sage and Loree Miltich at the Annual Meeting.

2010 ELECTION RESULTS



Newly Elected Supervisors and Clerk Sworn in at January Meeting

Lauren "Bud" Sage and Lloyd Adams were sworn in as Wabana Township supervisors at the January regular meeting. Ruth Fordham, clerk, was also sworn in. Thanks to Marvin Ott for his devoted service to Wabana Township as a supervisor!

2nd Public Meeting about Wabana Dam and Fish Passage held on Oct. 5, 2010

A public meeting was held to discuss a proposed fish passage at the Wabana Dam and the Wabana Creek Crossing at Itasca Co. 49 on Tuesday, October 5th at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Eric Raitanen, US Forest Service, and Jeff Tillman, DNR presented information about a unique opportunity to improve fish passage at the Wabana dam by building natural rock weirs at and below the present dam. This change would not alter the level of Wabana but would improve the walleye and northern pike fishery in the chain by increasing genetic diversity. Raitanen and Tillman presented

ideas, provided examples, fielded questions, and gathered comments to aid in the development of the project. For information contact Eric Raitanen at 246-3475.

Eric Raitanen

Fisheries Biologist

Chippewa NF

ericraitanen@fs.fed.us

1037 Division

Deer River MN, 56636

(218) 246-3475

Seeking Your Input on Wabana Cemetery Rules & Regulations

At the regular September 1st Wabana Township meeting, supervisors will discuss the Wabana Cemetery Rules and Regulations. We are seeking input from Wabana residents about any changes that we should consider. To read the current rules and regulations, scroll all the way down to the "Attachments" section at the bottom of this page, and click on the file. If you have ideas you'd like to submit, you may email them to one (or all) of the Wabana Supervisors at:

Loree Miltich Lmiltich@aol.com

Lloyd Adams lradams_94@msn.com

Lauren "Bud" Sage lw_mlsage@msn.com

You can also call any of us--or send your thoughts to clerk,
Ruth Fordham at 36377 Shoreview Drive, Grand Rapids, MN 55744.

Thank you!

2010 Community Fund Scholarships Awarded



*Alex W. Cone, Lloyd Adams of the Wabana Community Fund Scholarship Committee,
and Abby M. Rukavina. Not pictured is Jacob Ruder who currently attends a two year college.*

Alex plans to attend the University Of Minnesota, Twin Cities Campus and is thinking of majoring in Mathematics or Engineering. He would like to study abroad at least one year during his studies. Abby plans to attend the Duluth Business University and pursue a career as a veterinary technician. Congratulations Alex, Abby, and Jacob!

ANNOUNCING: RSVP's Bone Builders Program is now holding classes at Lawron Presbyterian church on Scenic Highway. Classes are Mondays from 1 PM to 2:30 PM and on Wednesdays from 9 AM to 10:30 AM. If you are interested in this Osteoporosis prevention and exercise program contact Lloyd Adams (Trainer) at 326-2130. Program improves balance, enhances energy and well-being, increases socialization opportunities, and provides information. It's fun and free for all. All equipment is provided.



Wabana Township's Annual Meeting was held on March 9th. Citizens heard reports from township supervisors on finances, roads, and upcoming plans. Citizens also set the 2011 levies as follows:

<i>General \$20,000</i>	<i>Fire \$22,000</i>
<i>Road & Bridge \$32,000</i>	<i>PR \$2,000</i>
<i>Cemetery \$1,000</i>	<i>Building \$500</i>
<i>Recreation \$5,000</i>	<i>Equipment \$250</i>
<i>Hall \$1,000</i>	<i>Reserve \$1,000</i>



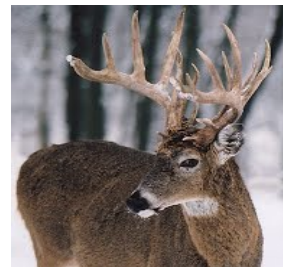
Sally Wilbur was chosen as Wabana "Citizen of the Year" for her service in making the Hunter's Supper and Summer Social a success. Congratulations, Sally! A certificate of appreciation will be given to Sally at an upcoming regular township meeting. The date for the 2012 Annual Meeting was set for Tuesday, March 8th.

Bud Sage awarded "2009 Leader of the Year " by Minnesota Association of Townships



Lauren "Bud" Sage is MAT's "2009 Leader of the Year"!

Congratulations to Bud on being awarded the "2009 Leader of the Year" by Minnesota Association of Townships! The "Leader of the Year" awards were established to recognize elected township officials whose community service exhibits high standards of dedication, ability, creativity, and leadership. We nominated Bud for his leadership in getting the building accomplished. We celebrated with cake and conversation after our regular December meeting.



Annual Hunter Supper a Success!

Sally Wilbur reported that we served 213 people and made \$1100 for the Wabana Community Fund for scholarships and other projects benefitting residents of the township. Thanks to Sally and her committee, everyone that donated prizes for the raffle, and to everyone who came to eat the great meal and make this annual event a success!



9/2/09 Bud Sage (township supervisor who served as general contractor for project) with John Morris (builder) at the new warming house/storage building. The windows are in the warming-house section of building and look out onto hockey rink. Thanks to Building Committee members!

9/5/09 ZIM'S LANE MEETING: A meeting to discuss plans for the redesign of Zim's Lane was held on September 5th at the Town Hall. Property owners, residents, and others interested in the issue attended to discuss ideas and concerns. Tony Carter from the County Engineer's Office will be on the October 7th meeting agenda to continue the discussion.

Spring (2009) is finally coming, and thanks to Tracy, Angie, Angie's brother and his son we have new basketball hoops at the hall! Angie and Tracy repainted them and got new hoops--but the backboard was HEAVY, so they needed extra help. Thanks to these good folks for getting the BB-hoops all set for a new summer season!



Basketball hoops before



and after!

Greg Past and Arlene Wheaton wrote a lovely song about Wabana. Click on the attachment below to view the music, and you can hear Greg sing it by

clicking the file called "Wabana" in the attachments at the bottom of this page. Here are the lyrics:

Ode to Wabana

Wabana, Wabana, you call to me
Wabana, Wabana, you set me free
Its here I feel my spirits soar
This wild beauty that I adore

Wabana, Wabana, I call to you
Wabana, Wabana, when day is through
Its here I long to feel your touch
All that is you I love so much

Clear waters, blue skies
Delight my eyes
Pine forests and deer
They draw me here
The stars that shine above,
Bring out my love, for:

Wabana, Wabana, you call to me
Wabana, Wabana, you set me free
Its here I want to end my days
I love you in so many ways.



At the January meeting, Marv Ott presented Linda Peterson with a clock

in honor of her years of dedicated service as Treasurer of Wabana Township. Thank you, Linda!



Deb Kee was sworn in as Treasurer at the January meeting.

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- [Ĉ Form CITZEN OF THE YEAR 2012....](#) Loree Miltich, Feb 27, 2012, 5:24 AM v.1 [d'](#)
- [Ĉ Ode_to_Wabana_song.pdf \(104k\)](#) Loree Miltich, Mar 23, 2009, 6:07 AM v.1 [d'](#)
- [Ĉ Rental_Policy_Town_Hall--Final_Apri...](#) Loree Miltich, Apr 6, 2012, 6:17 AM v.1 [d'](#)
- [Ĉ Wabana.WMA \(2520k\)](#) Loree Miltich, Mar 8, 2010, 12:43 PM v.1 [d'](#)
- [Ĉ Wabana_Scholarship_Form-2012.doc](#) Loree Miltich, Sep 28, 2011, 6:50 AM v.1 [d'](#)

Comments

You do not have permission to add comments.