Deer Lake Newsletter

Fall and Winter

Published three times a year by Deer Lake Property Owners' Association

Dedicated to the preservation and improvement of a beautiful lake for future generations

President's Message

Skip Wells

Well, things continue to change this year and your DLPOA Board is working to be a part of the solutions and stay on top of what affects Deer Lake. We recently started Zoom meetings as a way to get some much-needed work completed for 2021. Rest assured we are working together to change and adapt to technology (personally), and as a group. It can be a steep learning curve, but we are up to the task. We have had two meetings and the system is working. Please note that the dates of some DLPOA events MAY change as this Covid 19 thing evolves. In the event that changes need to occur, our social media outlets of Nextdoor and Facebook will be used in order to facilitate specific needs or activities and keep our members notified.

A shoutout goes to Andy Williams. Andy headed up the Boat Parade program the last two years and did a great job. However, he has to step down, as he no longer has access to a boat. We will need to replace him; a volunteer is needed! This is a fun job— please contact me to get the details—you'll have a great time while doing it.

Well, Mother Nature and the stars have aligned. This month we are going to have meteor showers throughout the month, Winter Solstice, two planets are going to come into a very close view, and yet another full moon on December 30th and 31st of 2020. What a great place Deer Lake will be to enjoy these happenings. If you don't live here all year, try to plan a trip soon that will allow your family to take part in these events. For those of us that do live here fulltime, we will just enjoy another fabulous winter at Deer Lake. Merry Christmas!



I wish you a very Merry Christmas, from the DLPOA Board!



Chipper Day Skip Wells

Thanks to the Stevens County Landfill Division, we were able to have two Fall Chipper Days. We did have to comply with Covid 19 guidelines requiring folks to unload their own loads. We had 50

loads in September and 56 loads in October. The good news is the small fee charged for various size vehicles and trailers netted equal amounts for Deer Lake and Loon Lake Property Owners' Associations.

The totals were \$467.00 and \$475.00 for a total of \$942.00 raised for charity donations for each organization. We are noticing more large-sized trailers being used. We accept all green and clean trees, stumps, branches and pine needles.



A special thanks goes out to Matt Smith of Stevens County Landfill for handling the loader operations and Lee Evans of LLPOA for once again working the shifts and providing direction to the load dumpers.

We are hoping to have 3 days next year. This all depends on the County Landfill budget, however it looks promising. One interesting side note is that we found out that the cost to the County for bringing in the Tub Grinder to actually make the chips is \$10,000 per day of operations. We have not chipped our pile as yet, it will probably be next Spring.

Nextdoor News!

Bob and Cheryl Schwartz

Nextdoor Deer Lake ... We now have 689 Deer Lake Neighbors !!!

With the social distancing requirements and other Covid 19 restrictions, 686 Deer Lake neighbors have turned to Nextdoor Deer Lake to stay in touch with each other, share the latest neighborhood news, and post fun photos of their lake life.

Most of you reading this already know the good points of this program, and have joined our private community electronic bulletin board.

It is free – no cost to sign up!!! Nextdoor does not sell your name or



email address to vendors and you will not receive spam or junk email from them.

We are a restricted electronic bulletin board. You must own property within our Deer Lake boundaries to sign up. If you are a new homeowner at Deer Lake or if you haven't taken the opportunity to sign up, please join us.

To join, go to www.nextdoor.com/join and use code HWDYKJ. We want to mention the sign up process includes a step that verifies your address (this is what keeps our site private). If you don't receive your mail at the lake (like many of our members), we are happy to help with verification of your address. Contact us at rismt@hotmail.com.

Thank you.

Join Facebook, too

Yes, Deer Lake has two social media platforms. Some prefer one or the

other, we hope you will sign up for both!

Sometimes, the same important information will be posted on both sites, but each site has its own "fun side" that is unique.

Probably the biggest difference is the pictures that people tend to publish more on Facebook. If you "tag" DLPOA when you post a picture of your family and friends having fun at the lake, then all the DLPOA Facebook members can enjoy it, also!

Our current membership is 1,047.

Search for Deer Lake Property Owners, and then send us a Friend Request. We would love to have you join us!



Deer Lake Fish Rearing





It has been a very unusual fishing year on Deer Lake. With the early closure to fishing season because of the pandemic for caution, the best part of our fishing season was cut short. There was very little word of fisherman having much success during this year's fishing season. That seems very unusual, because Deer Lake Resort released 30,000 Rainbow Trout, and the Santora net pen released 15,000 Brook Trout.

We have been trying to come up with logical reasons for the limited success of catching fish in our lake. One suggested reason is the abundance of food for the fish in Deer Lake. This is a possible assumption. The known factor in our declining fish population is the abundance of Lake Trout (Mackinaw) in our lake. Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife have extended our fishing season by opening it up earlier in the Spring, in hopes that people who fish our lake will take more Mackinaw out of our waters, to limit their growth in numbers. Mackinaw have been an ongoing problem in our lake. As many of the old timers can remember, Deer Lake had a pretty good population of Kokanee in the past, but again, they have been taken over by the predator fish—Mackinaw and Small Mouth Bass. It is our hope that if you catch one of these predator fish, that you will not release it back. Please help our fish population grow.

We would also like to thank Deer Lake Resort and Dave McCombs for taking the time and effort to raise fish last winter, but we now need another person to volunteer to raise fish. We have two pens available. Maintenance of these fish is about 30 minutes to feed them once per week. There are volunteers that will help set up and take down the pens at the beginning and end of the season. You need to have fairly deep water at the end of your dock. The fish are delivered in October, and you release them in May.

If you would be interested in trying your hand at rearing fish through next year's winter, contact: Ken Santora at traveler-007@hotmail.com.

East Side Road Crew





As many know, the east side to the lake has a narrow dirt road littered with potholes. Over the past five plus years, donations have been requested from those living on this road. The donations are used to plow the road at least once per year.

This year some of the proceeds went to filling in the potholes midsummer. The road crew of Larry Cameron, Dale Winfrey, Dave Rose, Jason Mitchell, and Ken Santora worked one day filling in a large amount of these holes. The road maintenance crew would like to thank all the donors for their contributions.



Emergency Services Report

Skip Wells

We have been fortunate that no major fires impacted Deer Lake this year. We do have a Covid 19 protocol in place in Stevens County that affects emergency agencies including all law enforcement, fire, EMS and ambulance services and the various County agencies.



There is a maximum of 10 people allowed at any type of meeting. This has directly affected, because the DLPOA Board is larger than that, and then no guests could be there, either. We started Zoom meetings, but are in our infancy at this time, and we are working on it. This also affects Lake Management District meetings also, which are public meetings. Same processes in place. We are set up to allow Deer Lake LMD to meet on Zoom and will be using that for now.

We do have some great news to provide our members. There is a new insurance rating for Fire Insurance. Stevens County Fire District 1 has been approved by the Washington State Survey and Rating Bureau to have a lower insurance classification in two areas.

The first area is where the buildings and residences are part of a fire hydrant supported water system. The classification has been reduced from a Class 7 to a Class 6. This presumes that the home or building is within 1,000 ft. of a fire hydrant and within 7 miles of a staffed fire station or 5 miles from a volunteer station. Loon Lake Station 2 and Deer Lake Station 5 meet that criteria.

The fire hydrant must be within 1,000 ft of the residence. Some residences do not meet that criteria. It is recommended that the hydrant location be measured for distance purposes. Get with your neighbors to share the cost of a hydrant installation. This is accomplished by contacting Stevens County PUD 1. Get your neighbors together to split up the cost for the installation. In some cases the hydrant installation saved the home owners up to \$800.00 in insurance premiums annually.



The second area is in the rural residences. They can now, for the first time, get a Tender Credit for their residence. The home must be within 5 miles of a fire station. Many of those residences were paying as high as a Class 9. This will reduce them to the equivalency of a Class 7. Huge savings for those folks. As with any insurance package, always check for any credits or deductions that may be available and insurance companies can apply.

We usually have a Real Estate Summary at our end-of-the-year newsletter, but the County has been slow to record the data this year, so you will need to stay tuned until the next issue to find out which houses sold on Deer and Loon Lake (and for how much!)

2021 Annual Pancake Feed

Bob Schwartz

July 4, 2021 --- SAVE THE DATE!

With pleasure (and optimism!)) we are announcing our 2021 Pancake Feed will be held on July 4th of 2021.

Our sincere thanks to Ron and Nicki Coil for once again donating their Pinelow Park dining and kitchen facilities for our event.

Let's keep our fingers crossed that all the Covid restrictions are gone by then so we can all enjoy this traditional DLPOA event. Please stay safe and healthy—you've got some pancakes to eat!



Was There A Fourth of July Parade?

Greg and Karen Presley

With heavy hearts this year, we had to cancel most of our DLPOA events, included the Children's Parade—or so we thought!

We received a call from Steve Ridler, who decided that even though the parade was cancelled, he could still do something that people would enjoy! We met them at their place and they kept the same route that's been used for the parade in past years -Deer Lake Resort to West Bay Park and then through some of the nearby neighborhoods. They played wonderful music and lifted the hearts of all who got to hear them. Such a great idea as a way to celebrate the Fourth with music, and still keep social distancing!

We can not thank the Ridler Band enough for everything they do for our community.



Ridlers make unexpected music!

Young
entrepreneurs
sell Deer Lake
T-shirts on the
Fourth





What a nice looking patriotic group that showed up to listen at Deer Lake Resort

We did get to have Fireworks last summer! Mike Egan

We hope Deer Lake enjoyed the fireworks program this past summer. It went off with almost no hitches. There was very little wind, and the sky was so clear—perfect for viewing fireworks!

The barge needed some repairs from winter ice damage. Mike Wilson from West Bay made those repairs and the barge was deemed sea worthy. Big thank you to him!

Our captain, Marion Ballard, pushed us out at 7 p.m. to



our designated position in the middle of the lake. The pyrotechs from Pyro Spectaculars Inc. put the finishing touches on all the mortars, while we circled and kept a 300 foot separation from other boaters. At 10:15, our show of approximately 1,500 shots including 5", 6", and two 8" mortars began with a bang!

More and more boats gathered to watch. There was a good 15 minutes of mortar action,

and then a fabulous Grand Finale!

Thanks to all who helped: Ron and Nicki Coil, for allowing DLPOA to stage the show on their beach and docks, Marion Ballard, Ron McKenzie, and Bob Schwartz.



Dock Demo Update

Phil Bray

Dock Demo has been rescheduled to Saturday, May 22nd. If you have a dock, or know of a dock that needs to be demolished, then recycled, please let us know so we can be sure to take care of it this upcoming Spring.

We also need lots of volunteers, so mark the date on your calendar and let us know if you can help with the destruction! Contact Phil Bray at philjill@att.net or call 509-995-1796.

Water levels are higher than normal right now, and the lake will probably hit overflow in early Spring. We have had at least 21 inches of snow, compared to 8 inches in 2019 at the same time.

Don't forget to throw an extra rope on your dock; the higher water will cause anchors to lift from their original position sometimes! You may find your dock has drifted to the Narrows when you come up next Spring, and it can cost about \$300 to have it repositioned and the anchor reattached.

Coming up... Lots of pictures!!

Here is a small sample—you'll see animal pictures, lake-view pictures, and my favorite—people having fun at the lake pictures! Thanks to all who submitted. I wish I could use them all!





Jonathon Evans

Deer lake from the sky. We took a flight over the lake this summer.



Coni Hammond

Dumping hot tub water in the lake? Mike Phillips

Please read this article if you own a hot tub on Deer Lake.

Since it is illegal to discharge anything into the waterways in the state of Washington, what do we do with hot tub water? After talking to the Dept. of Ecology, Tri County Health District, Fish and Wildlife and the Public Utility District, the options are limited.

Dept. of Ecology says absolutely no discharge into Washington waterways. RCW 90.48.080. Tri County has no jurisdiction unless sewage in discharged. Fish and Wildlife says if the water is ambient temperature and neutralized, it's probably okay, but it's best to filter it through the ground. P.U.D. says no chemicals should be put in their system as it throws the bacterial balance off in their treatment of sewage.

Do not put the water in your septic system, as it will cause your system to fail according to the Dept. of Ecology, and my system instructions.

So where do we safely put that hot tub water?

I called one of the major hot tub dealers in Spokane. He was knowledgeable in the subject. He also has a hot tub on Loon Lake. There is a chemical neutral-



izer available to make the used water safe, but there is more to that subject. I am not willing to quote him; please call your dealer to get the explanation of how to deal with the hot tub water.

If the person you talk to says it's safe to put it in the lake, call another dealer that gives you an explanation on how to do it properly. The average hot tub holds about 300/400 gallons, and multiply that by however many tubs there are around our lake. Probably a bunch!

Please consider not putting anything that is non- natural in our lake. We have too much pollution from surface runoff right now. Thank you for considering this threat to our lake water quality.

Membership Committee Report

Ken Santora

As of this report, our current membership stands at 371. Thank you again for your support to DLPOA. As you are aware, this year's activities were greatly affected by Covid-19.

We did have an incredible firework show that illuminated our night sky with an array of beautiful color. Thank you, Mike Egan, for organizing this event.

Enclosed in this newsletter is a membership envelope. Please fill it out and return to us. If you have new lake neighbors who haven't joined us yet, we would also appreciate you letting them know about DLPOA!



Only \$20 for annual dues? What a good deal!

DLPOA Apparel

Bob and Cheryl Schwartz

We are planning on having a 2021 Summer T Shirt to put us back into the swing of things. Stay tuned for an announcement in the spring on the design and costs.

Our thanks to all those folks who helped make our 2020 T Shirt sales a success.

Thank you to all for your continued support.



Southwood Shores Road Petition Update

Mike Larson and George Craig

The current status of our Road Improvement District petition to chip seal Southwood Shores Road is on hold. Approval needs to be confirmed by Stevens County Commissioners. The current status of who holds these three positions is to be determined due to the dispute between the prosecutor and the three current Commissioners. See Spokesman Review articles on August 24 and October 26.

The DLPOA Road Safety and Maintenance Committee has been in contact with Wayne Cornwell, Public Works Director, following up on our petition request. We have asked him to present our request for consideration for the 2021 budget when the three Commissioners have been determined. The process, if and when it gets approved, will have numerous steps.



The goal of this petition is to stop the large dust problem during heavy travel times, and also fast vehicles traveling on the road during summer months. Twenty mph is recommended.

The next update will be on NextDoor website for Deer Lake residents.



Big Bucks Club **Ken Ring**

The year 2021 will be the eighth year of the Big Buck Club. Our original group of 52 members has grown to 89.

This club consists of Deer Lake property owners who contribute \$100 (or more!), and that is including the \$20 that is owed for annual dues.

Because of their contributions, we have been able to maintain our low \$20 annual membership fees for years.

To help our membership not become **STAG**nant, please consider being a **DEER** and send us some extra **DOE** so we can **RACK** up some extra **BUCKS**. We will **FAWN** all over you. (Okay, I'm done).



Fourth of July Boat Parade



The Ridlers perform on Land...and Sea



If you know immediately what this picture to the left is about, then you probably were one of the MANY Deer Lake people who had the pleasure of listening to the talented Ridler family and friends perform on their barge this past summer.

They live at Deer Lake, and usually are busy at the successful Ridler Piano Bar in downtown Spokane. When music venues were shut down because of the virus, they improvised, and found a way to do what they loved, earn a little bit of money,

all the while keeping their audience safe out on their own boats.

The word of mouth after every concert saw the amount of boats growing exponentially every weekend. Every week, the logistics were improved. The trolling motor that faithfully hauled them out to the sand bar blossomed into pontoon boats giving a quicker ride. Instead of a stationary concert, the Ridler Barge started cruising in and out of the bays. They were the Pied Piper, and boat after boat followed behind them.

My favorite night was when they came to my neck of the woods, I mean neck of the lake—the most northern part of the Narrows. I was able to sit on my deck with an adult beverage (not that I didn't when in the boat), listen, and sing along, and use my own bathroom, instead of the lake when it got dark.



Later, the guys docked the barge at our place after the concert, and were given blankets, snacks, and drinks around our fire pit. I do believe they enjoyed the indoor plumbing, as well. The best part though, was the next morning, when my grandson, Cage, age 7, was given permission to play the drums before they pulled the barge back to the launch. Steve tickled the ivories and Cage followed along really well. He loved it, of course, and then Chaz and Steve offered this little guy a memory that will last a lifetime. He got to play the drums all the way across the lake, while riding the barge back with the guys! He was star struck, and guess what he wants for Christmas this year?



The ongoing battle of Good versus Evil

First there was "Milfoil Wars",

then "Deer Lake Strikes Back", and "Return of the Invasive Weed"

Will the good guys finally win in 2020?

Mike Phillips

We started the survey and milfoil

plant pull the week after the 4th of July. More survey than pull. The divers said the treatment applied last year was successful based on this survey.

After finding some new patches needing treatment, Kevin and his crew treated about 2 acres. At the end of the season, Kevin treated a few more acres. The Ace Diving crew pulled about 2,500 pounds from various places all around the lake.

I had some thoughts based on all the work we have done over the last 10 years. After discussing the situation with both the divers and Kevin Schroeder, the man in charge and also a lake resident, we decided to change the last 2 week attack plan. We did the survey and pull after Labor Day, instead of before as in previous years.

We also decided to do the last two weeks end-to-end instead of a month apart. The reasons are that there are fewer boats to cause wakes while divers are working around the docks and the plants are more mature making them easier to identify.

The divers went much slower and more completely around the lake one time over two weeks. Kevin and his crew then treated about 2 acres. After the two weeks were done, we all agreed the work was much more successful than previous years. Kevin went back recently to check on the effectiveness of his treatment. It's looking good.

We sent out some samples of both native and Eurasian milfoil to Montana State University to have them tested for hybrid-using DNA. Loon Lake says their Eurasian Milfoil is a hybrid. The results were that the samples are our usual native milfoil, also known as Northern Milfoil.

We have noticed the native milfoil patches are increasing all around the lake. The residents that have called me thinking they had Eurasian milfoil were for the most part seeing more native plants.

When I did some visual drone surveying, I could see much more native growth. There isn't anything we can

do about native plants. Individual property owners can do some legal pulling or bottom barrier work while staying within the guidelines of the Dept. of Ecology permit pamphlet.

Read on...

After talking to Kevin and the crew, I estimate we spent about 300 man hours this season, between Ace Diving, Kevin, his crew and me.

Please send me any questions, comments or observations to me. 1945skipper@gmail.com. Or call 233-2510. Many thanks to all the people involved with this ongoing situation.



Mike's drone takes pictures of the Milfoil boat going in and out around docks

Ken Ring

Your DLPOA Calendar is enclosed—28 pages of information and enjoyment

We had 42 businesses advertise with us because they want to do business with YOU—please take time to look over their ads and see what they have to offer. Inside the calendar, you fill find a reference section that has all their phone numbers, as well as the names of your DLPOA Board members, and Committee Assignments for next year. On the back page, don't miss the Deer Lake map; it lists several street names, and our Bay names.

The question is, "Where should I hang it for best usage?"

Jerry tv re

Jerry R. has it by his beer refrigerator, and he never misses a day! Attach it to the refrigerator, tv remote, or even the tv itself.

But for guaranteed usage, hang it next to the toilet paper roll. That is where my wife posts my "To Do" list, and now with the calendar there, it really helps me to stay organized all day, all week, and all year!



Kaniksu Ranch, How a Nudist Resort Survives a Pandemic Submitted by DLPOA and Kaniksu Board member, Pam Horner

Kaniksu and its members reach out a hand of friendship to all DLPOA members and sympathy to all who have lost family and friends to the Covid19 scourge. We also, like other businesses in the area, have had some struggles on what to do to best manage this virus while allowing our Kaniksu Ranch, Inc. (a not-for-profit corporation established in 1935!) to survive and to keep

our 100+ members as safe as possible. We are a co-op, with no paid employees, cheerfully managed by our members.

For those of you not familiar with us, we are a Nudist Resort, part of the AANR (American Association of Nude Recreation) located at the very end of N. Deer Lake Road. In fact, N. Deer Lake Road dead ends at our lovely resort, encom-

passing 260 pristine acres. We have about 50 cabin and RV sites which are leased to our members. We also have numerous camping sites, many with hook ups, for visitors who we welcome during our open season, Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend! We have a big old lodge with 8 sleeping rooms, restrooms and a kitchen that in a "normal year" would serve meals on the weekends. Our 20' x 40' swimming





pool is open during the summers and is wood boiler heated to a comfortable 87 degrees. Our hot tub and sauna are also favorites, with a new "swim spa" waiting to be installed in 2021. You may have heard of our world famous **Bare Buns Fun Run**, held annually on the last Sunday of July. We generally have upwards of 400 runners from all over the world, for our 5K run, with 90% finishing nude.

Our 9 person board, elected by the membership for 3 year terms, made the decision in the spring of 2020 to close to the public, to help limit the spread of Coronavirus. Our members, who pay annual dues, would be free to come and go as usual, with some modifications (temperature taking, mask-wearing when indoors with others, and signing in, just in case we needed to do contact tracing). We would allow members to bring their visiting family along (and YES, we are a family friendly resort). My granddaughters, when they visit, have a hard time deciding whether to sleep at our Deer Lake house or the little log cabin we have at Kaniksu. To limit members gathering indoors, we did not cook or serve meals in the clubhouse this year and our occasional karaoke sessions were held outdoors. Our beloved BBFR race was cancelled for this year, but we have high hopes to have the 36th running on July 25, 2021.



How are our finances?? We are getting by and have tried to make lemonade out of lemons in several ways! We have had 20 new members join in 2020, several who told us that they were joining because we were only allowing members on site. Our clubhouse, which hadn't been renovated since the mid 70s, is getting a facelift! Members came together and spent days tearing out ancient carpeting and wood shake décor which was

past its prime. Then they came back to paint and build new cabinetry, stain

woodwork, and install a "real" furnace. (Previously the clubhouse's sole source of heat was "Hearth Vader" a huge woodstove named for its resemblance to the Star Wars villain).

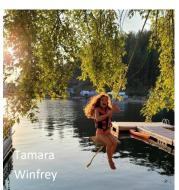
We are working with a forester to do selective harvesting of our timber, which hadn't been done since 2005. The income from the timber sales has been earmarked for the Clubhouse project, which will most likely include new siding, some new decking and a new floor. These renovations, and the logging, would not have been possible in a year when we had nearly 1,000 people (400 runners and another 600 or so visitors) at the resort for the Bare Buns Fun Run and our usual 15-20 visitors each week during the summer.

What will happen in 2021??? Your guess is probably as good as mine, but I am hopeful that with the promise of Covid19 vaccines being available in early 2021, Kaniksu will be able to, once again, open its gates to any visitors who would like to venture in! There is a day use fee, which is waived the day of your very first visit. We also usually advertise 2 or 3 Open Houses each year, that are free to visitors. While we are a NUDIST Resort, and not clothing optional, for comfort, clothing may be worn everywhere, except in the pool, hot tubs, and sauna. Give us a call in the spring of 2021 and come visit the place where a weekend of freedom there is like a whole week anywhere else!





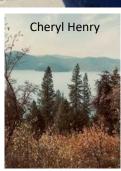






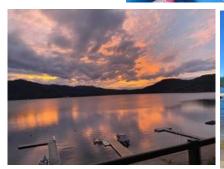








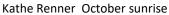








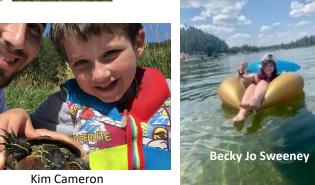




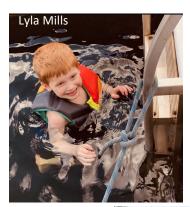
















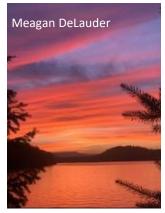




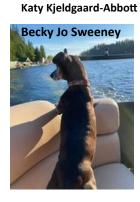














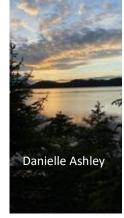


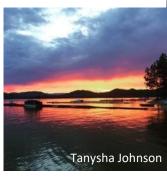














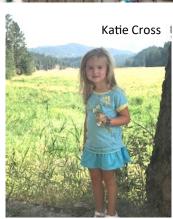
Marlena Dury—Tamarack Bay

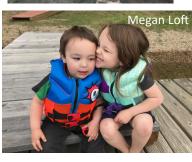








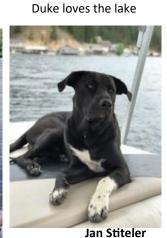




Our crew beyond the gate in the Narrows



Charlotte Finnegan







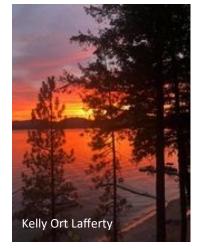


Daniel Balcom Rare sunset this side of lake





Becky Houck Sears





Kimberly McNees Dog days of summer with besties!



Deer Lake Wildlife



























During the time the smoke hit the lake, we were not going outside, and the wildlife took over. This coyote walked through our yard every day it was smokey. On this day, it was sleeping in the back yard, only 5 feet from the lawn, about 30 ft from the slider. He had just woken up and did a big stretch, looked around, then wandered off to the woods .





