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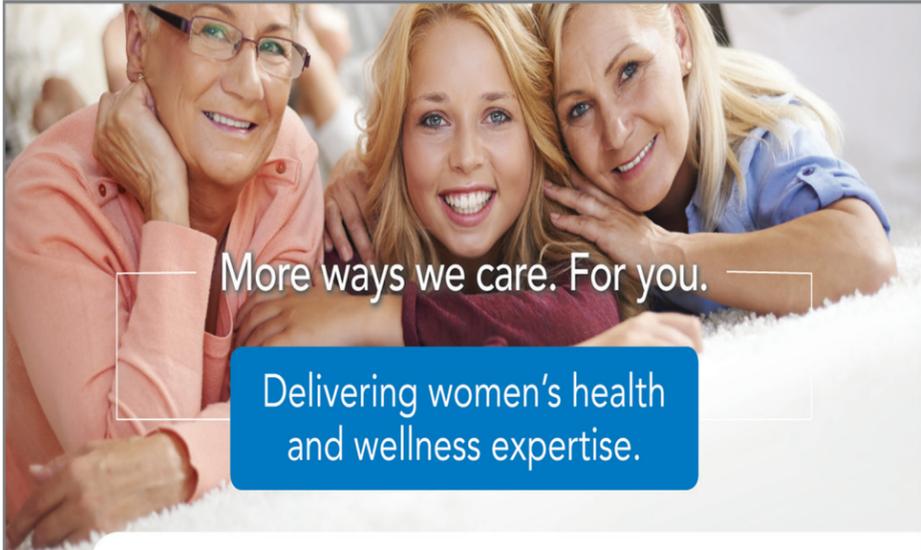
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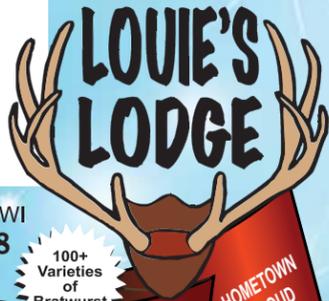
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Just one of the many ways to enjoy our winter wonderland photo by Deb Tempesta

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Greta Weaver 's first Northern - a 10 lb beauty!

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Having a ball sledding Photo by Deb Margotto



Beaver Dam Lake during the WI State Ice Fishing Contest Photo by Connie Bussewitz

Northwoods Notebook: We're overdue for a real winter, and real winter fun

By Larry Werner

It was late winter in 2014 when Ann and I looked at a condo for sale in the Serenity Shores development on Beaver Dam Lake. The ground was covered with many inches of snow and the lake still frozen, even though it was almost spring.

We stood on the snow-covered deck of that condo and looked out at the bay that separates Serenity Shores from downtown Cumberland. It was a beautiful sight – fishing shacks where winter anglers were pulling in crappie, bass and walleye while enjoying a beverage or two with friends.

We didn't move in until June and enjoyed our first summer, which ended early, with good snow and cold coming by early November. Our first Thanksgiving was a magical holiday with the kids and grandkids sledding down the hill onto a solidly-frozen lake after we filled their bellies with turkey.

That winter, the winter of '14-'15, I bought cross-country skis and took to the trails at Timberland Hills, after being away from that winter sport for 20 years. My friend, Bob, and I went skiing several times at Timberland and at the trails behind the Barron Area Community Center.

That was the only "real winter" of the three we've had since buying our place in Cumberland. Last winter, as you might recall, the snowmobile race had to be canceled because of thin ice. I got out skiing just once, with the trails closing early as a result of a mid-winter thaw.

I'm hoping for a real winter this year.

Some people – the snowbirds – leave in winter. And I must admit we spend the month of March in Florida. But I find December, January and February a great time to be in The Island City. It's quieter than in summer, when the tourists and cabin folks are on the streets, in the restaurants and even crowding the churches.

Winter is a quieter time, but there's plenty to do, I've learned.

Cross-country skiing on the trails around Cumberland is one of my favorite activities. And if you don't want to drive out to one of the Timberland courses, or to Barron, you can ski on the lake, assuming it freezes. It's great exercise breaking trails in the snow going one direction and then following those trails back home.

Cumberland is a great walking town, and the sidewalks are usually shoveled, as required by city ordinance. I like walking from my home on Grove Street, across the bridge that separates Library Lake and Rabbit Bay and along our main street through downtown.

Coffee and sweets never taste better at Peter & Annie's or at the Bakery than they do at the end of a long, winter walk.

I was determined to take up ice fishing last winter, but didn't, because of the wimpy winter. Likewise, I didn't get a chance to ride the lake on a snowmobile. I hope this winter I'll try both of those activities.

I also plan to put on snowshoes for a stroll on the Ice Age Trail, or along the lake. My friend, Elissa Skinner, says snowshoeing is good exercise and safer than braving the hills on skis.

And at the end of my winter day outdoors – whether it's walking, skiing, fishing, snowmobiling or snowshoeing – I'll have dinner with friends at the Five O'Clock Club bar, or pizza at Lakeside, or the buffet at The Corner Bar or tacos at Nezy's. There are plenty of indoor places in Cumberland to enjoy food, beverage and fellowship after a day outdoors.

And one of my favorite indoor winter places is the sun porch on that condo I bought almost four years ago. Is there anything better in winter than reading a good book in a room warmed by the afternoon sun, or a fireplace, while the winds whip the snow into drifts on the lake?

And we've got a beautiful, well-stocked library if you want to read somewhere other than home.

If you like good music, the Cumberland Fine Arts Center offers a musical revue called Lifesong by Ron Ruppel the first two weekends of January. And on Feb. 10, the Stringsmiths play their tunes and Vickie Komarek serves pulled-pork sandwiches at Barbecue & Bluegrass, our annual offering of hot music for a cold night.

In winter, like in summer, Cumberland is the place to be.

Larry Werner's email is lhwner47@gmail.com.

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Winter's Beauty



Peaceful wintertime scene Photo by Deb Tempesta

If you head out to one of Wisconsin's many lakes or rivers to ice fish, snowmobile, ATV, cross-country ski, or just to enjoy a winter day, we want you to have fun and be safe. A bit of advance planning and practicing basic ice precautions can help you return home safely.

When is ice safe?

There really is no sure answer, and no such thing as 100 percent safe ice. You cannot judge the strength of ice by one factor like its appearance, age, thickness, temperature or whether the ice is covered with snow. Ice strength is based on a combination of several factors, and they can vary from water body to water body. Ice strength can also vary in different areas of the same body of water.

Know before you go

Because ice conditions vary, it is important to know before you go. The DNR does not monitor local ice conditions or the thickness of the ice. Local bait shops, fishing clubs and resorts serve winter anglers every day and often have the most up-to-date information on how thick the ice is on local lakes and rivers, as well as areas that are especially dangerous.

Safety tips

- Dress warmly in layers.
- Don't go alone. Head out with friends or family.

Take a cell phone if available, and make sure someone knows where you are and when you are expected to return.

- Know before you go. Don't travel in areas you are not familiar and don't travel at night or during reduced visibility.

- Avoid inlets, outlets or narrow that may have current that can thin the ice.

- Look for clear ice, which is generally stronger than ice with snow on it or bubbles in it.

- Carry some basic safety gear: ice claws or picks, a cellphone in a waterproof bag or case, a life jacket and length of rope.

What to do if you fall through ice

If you fall through the ice, remain calm and act quickly.

- Do not remove your winter clothing. Heavy clothes can trap air, which can help provide warmth and flotation. This is especially true in a snowmobile suit.
- Go back toward the direction you came. That is probably where you will find the strongest ice – and what lies ahead is unknown.

- Place your hands and arms on the unbroken surface. This is where a pair of nails, sharpened screwdrivers or ice picks are handy in providing the extra traction you need to pull yourself up onto the

ice.

- Kick your feet and dig in your ice picks to work your way back onto the solid ice. If your clothes have trapped a lot of water, you may have to lift yourself partially out of the water on your elbows to let the water drain before starting forward.

- Once back on the ice, don't try to stand up. Lie flat until you are completely out of the water, then roll away from the hole to keep your weight spread out. This may help prevent you from breaking through again.

- Get to a warm, dry, sheltered area and warm yourself up immediately. In moderate to severe cases of cold-water hypothermia, you must seek medical attention. Cold blood trapped in your extremities can come rushing back to your heart after you begin to warm up. The shock of the chilled blood may cause ventricular fibrillation leading to a heart attack and death!

Instructions for making ice claws

- Get two 4" pieces of wooden doweling the size of a broom handle or a little larger. Whatever material you select, it should float in case you drop the claws while struggling.

- Drive a stout nail into one end of each dowel. This should be a hardened



Josh Tempesta with a nice winter walleye

16 penny or larger concrete nail.

- Use a file to sharpen the nail heads to a point.

- Drill a hole into the dowels (in the end opposite the nail) and tie a length of

strong cord through the hole so a pick is on each end "jump-rope" fashion. You may also drill a hole in the ends alongside the nails so the nail on the other pick can nest in the

hole, keeping both points covered. Keep the picks in your pocket for quick emergency access if you or a companion do break through.

Recommended Minimum Ice Thickness
(Rough Guidelines for New Clear Ice Only)

4" or less
STAY OFF!!

4 Inches
Ice Fishing

5 Inches
Snowmobile or ATV

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12-15 Inches
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Michael Moos with a pair of dandy northern

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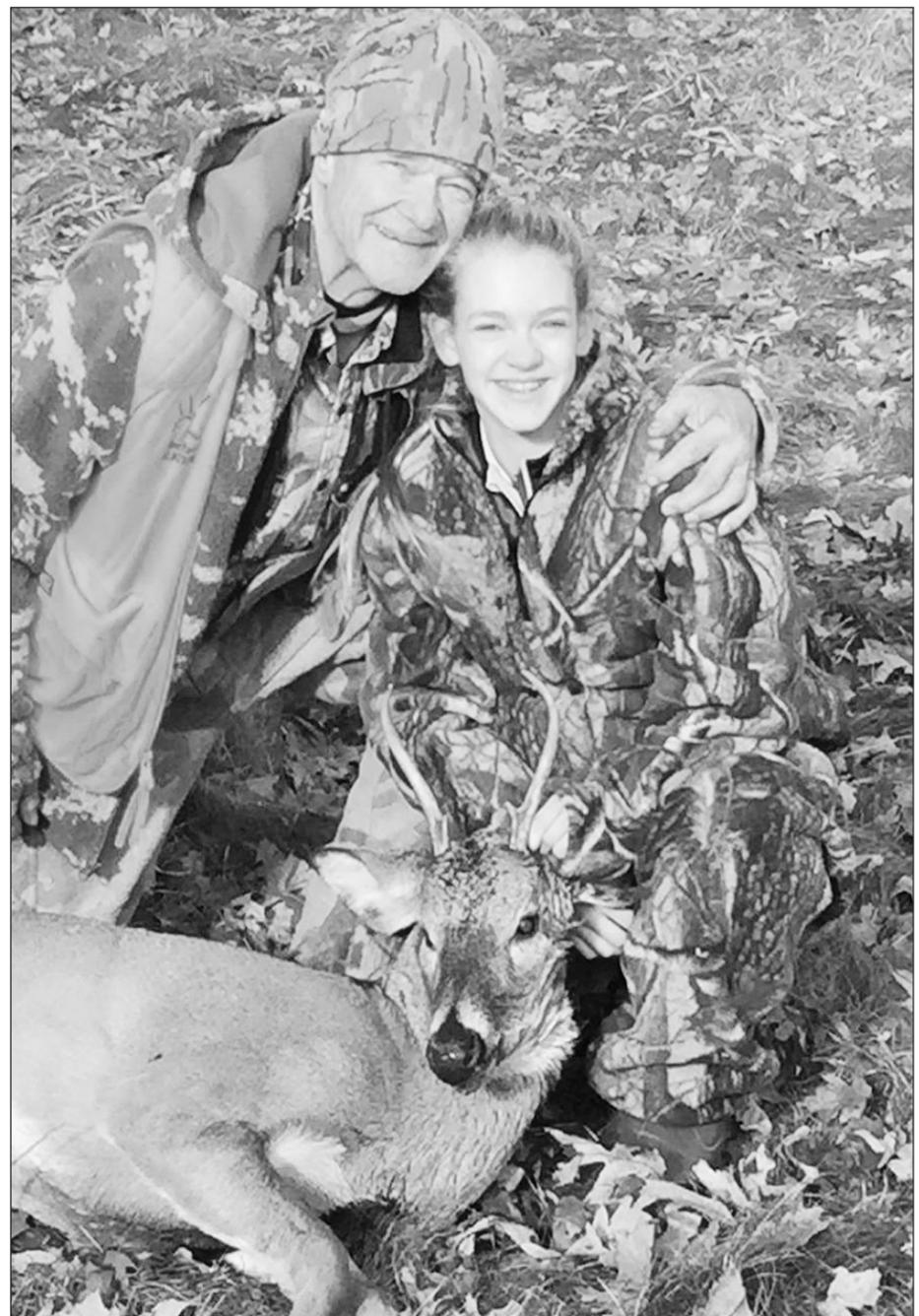
Gaitlyn Johnson • 4 pt. Buck



Keira Butzler • 6 pt. Buck



Max Matthys • 8 pt. Buck



Claude Matula and granddaughter Delaney with her first Buck



Alex Koser • 12 pt. Buck



Craig Bowen • 8 pt. Buck



Frank Hayton • 8 pt. Buck



John Effertz • 6 pt. Buck

WINTER EVENTS CALENDAR

January

- 6th • Luck Football Team Tourney • Bone Lake, Luck
- 6th • Pat's Landing Tipper Tourney • Chippewa Flowage, Hayward
- 13th • Jack Frost Fest • Spooner
- 20th • Barronett Ice Fishing Contest • Shallow Lake, Barronett
- 20th • Operation Frosty Paws • Red Cedar Lake, Birchwood
- 27th • AFP Ice Fishing Contest • Bone Lake, Luck
- 27th • Marshmiller Lake Ice Fishing Contest • Bloomer
- 28th • St. Joseph's Ice Fishing Contest • N. Twin Lake, Amery

February

- 3rd • Lions Club Ice Fishing Contest • Wapogasset Lake, Amery
- 3rd • Lions Club Ice Fishing Contest • Spooner Lake, Spooner
- 3rd • Freeze Your Buns Off Crappie Tourn. • Deer Foot Lodge, Spooner
- 10th • WI State Ice Fishing Tournament • Beaver Dam Lake, Cumberland
- 18th • Poskin Lake Sportmen's Club • Poskin Lake, Almena
- 18th • Sportsmans Club Ice Fishing Contest • Lake Magnor, Richardson
- 22-28th • American Birkebeiner • Hayward
- 23-24th • Chetek Winterfest • Chetek

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A good time was had by all!



2017 was a successful year at the McHenry-Bergstrom deer camp

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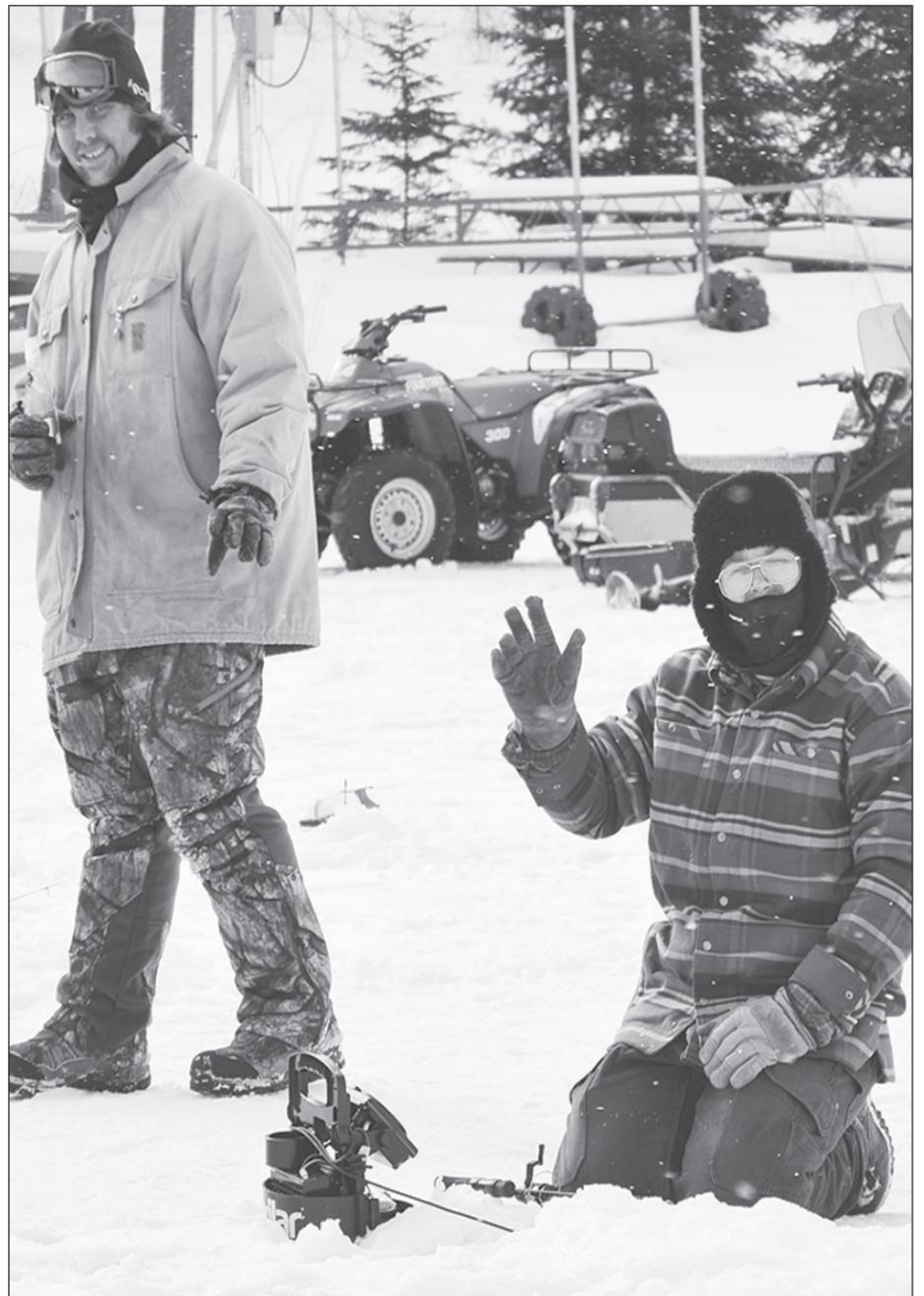
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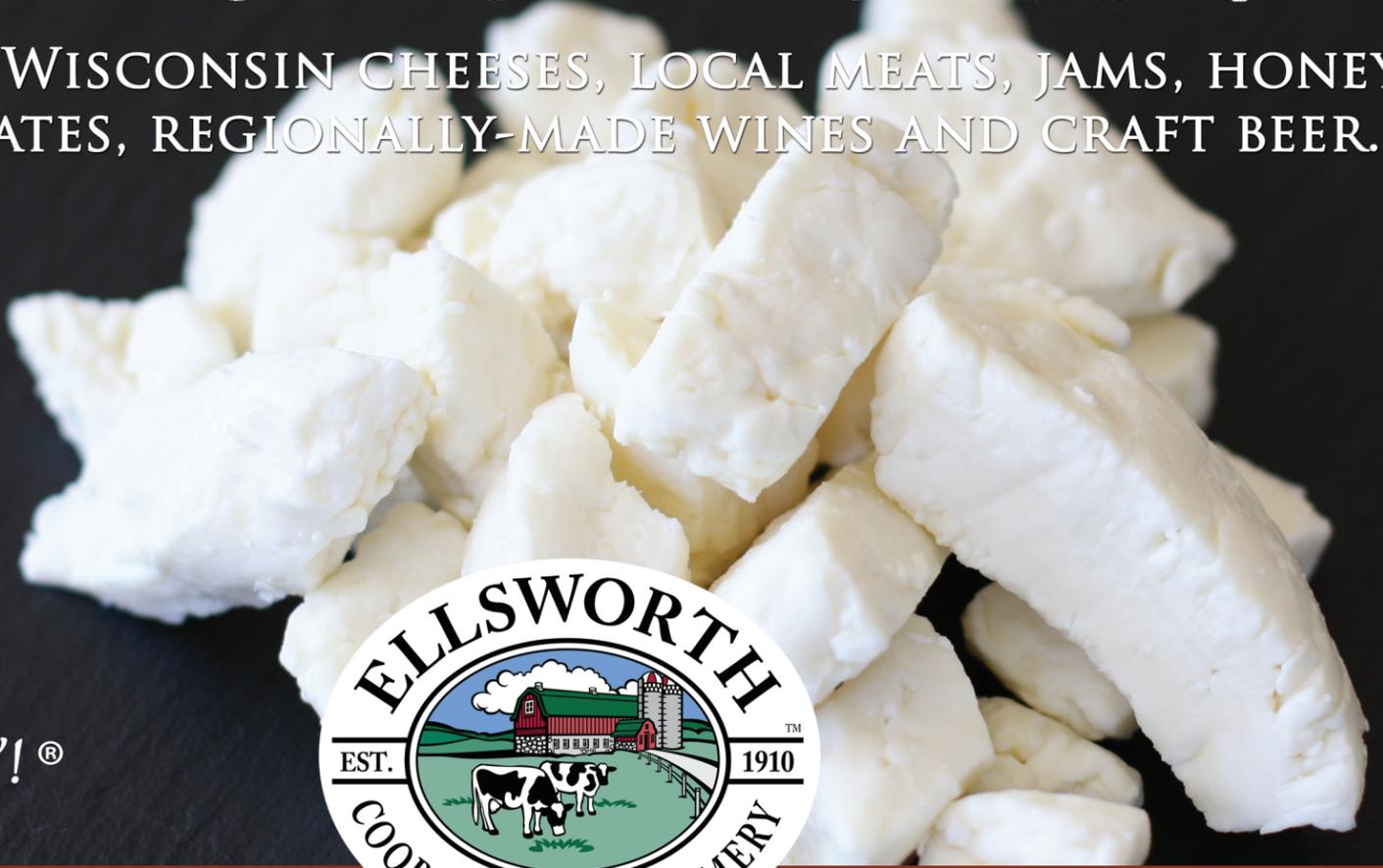
Ice fishing is cool!



Having fun on Beaver Dam Lake at the Wisconsin State Ice Fishing Contest.

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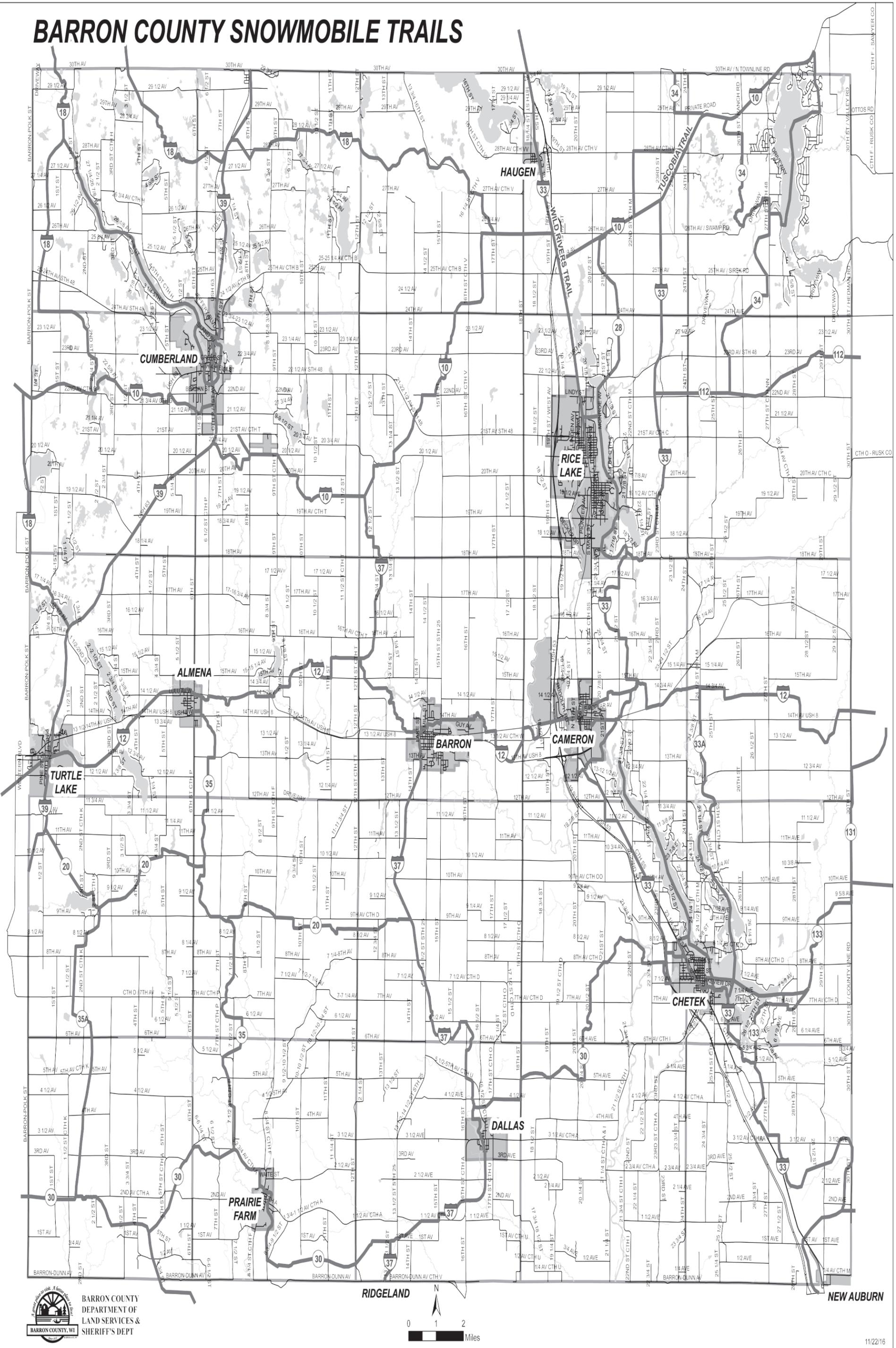
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Gavin Jobe with a beautiful Beaver Dam Lake Trout



Divine Deer Stew

submitted by Kristin Winter, South St Paul, MN
(We have a summer place in Cumberland!)

I am definitely NOT a wild game fan (that would be my hunter/fisherman husband), but this is probably one of the best stews we have ever had.

2 lbs raw venison, trimmed in bite-sized pieces

- 1 small onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 Tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tsp Italian seasoning
- 1 Tbsp salt
- 1/4 - 1/2 tsp of crushed red pepper flakes
- 2 cups water
- 2 cubes beef bouillon
- 8 oz canned tomato sauce (try Contadina sauce - Extra Thick and Zesty)
- 4 medium uncooked red potatoes, diced large
- 16 oz baby carrots
- 4 Tbsp flour
- 1 Tbsp oil
- 8 oz bag frozen peas
- 1 can diced tomatoes with peppers and onions (like RoTel)

Season meat with salt and pepper and brown in oil with garlic and onions. Transfer to a slow cooker and add everything except flour. Cook on low 8 hours.

Thirty minutes before serving, make a slurry with the flour and 1/4 cup water and stir into the crockpot to thicken.

Serve with crusty, warm bread!

Sparkling Pumpkin Spice Punch

submitted by Jennifer Hyatt

Packed with warm winter spices, this punch will quickly become a family favorite!

- 1/2 cup pumpkin puree
- 1/2 cup orange juice concentrate
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin spice
- 1 - 2 liter bottle of Sprite

In a sauce pan over medium heat, combine the pumpkin puree, orange juice concentrate, sugar, water, lemon juice & pumpkin spice. Bring to boil stirring constantly. Quickly remove from heat. Pour mixture through a metal mesh strainer and chill until ready to make punch. (Makes about 2 cups syrup)

Place one cup of the syrup and Sprite into a punch bowl with ice. Stir and serve!

Note: If you would like to give this punch a more adult falir, try adding cinnamon schnapps!

WisDNR: Snowmobile safety tips

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources offers the following advice for safe snowmobile usage.

Zero alcohol keeps you safe on the trail

Zero Alcohol Drinking alcohol before snowmobiling or during your ride slows your reactions, impairs your judgment, and is a leading contributor to snowmobiling deaths. Last winter, alcohol was involved in 70 percent of the 23 snowmobiling fatalities.

Join DNR in the international zero alcohol campaign that urges every snowmobiler to take personal responsibility for reducing alcohol-related crashes. Wisconsin conservation wardens will be handing out zero alcohol stickers to snowmobilers and asking you to display it.

Here's what you can do to help:

- Display the Zero alcohol sticker on your helmet, snowmobile, trailer, or vehicle.
- Choose to be 100 per-

cent alcohol-free until after your ride is over and you're safely home.

• Commit to riding only with other snowmobilers who are alcohol-free.

More safety tips

Wisconsin's recreation safety specialists recommend you take these other precautions to stay safe on the trails this winter:

• **Slow down.** Speed is a contributing factor in nearly all fatal snowmobiling accidents. Drivers should proceed at a pace that will allow ample reaction time for any situation. Drive at moderate speeds, and drive defensively, especially after sunset.

• **Carry a first-aid kit and dress appropriately.** Your first-aid kit should include a flashlight, knife, compass, map, and waterproof matches. Always wear a helmet with goggles or a face shield to prevent injuries from twigs and flying debris. Wear layers of water-repellent clothing and make sure you have no loose ends that

might catch in the machine or tangle in equipment.

• **Avoid traveling across bodies of water when uncertain of ice thickness or water currents.** Rapidly changing weather and moving water in streams and lake inlets also affect the thickness and strength of ice on lakes and ponds. Snow cover can act as a blanket and prevents thick strong ice from forming.

• **Stay on marked trails or, where allowed, on the right shoulder of the road.** Be alert for fences, tree stumps and stretched wire that may be concealed by snow.

• **Never travel alone.** Most snowmobile accidents result in personal injury. The most dangerous situations occur when a person is injured and alone. If you must travel alone, tell someone your destination, planned route, and when you will return.

Tips for a safe heating season from the Cumberland Fire Department

During the cold months, more residential fires-and fire deaths-occur than any other time of the year. The majority of these fires are caused from residential heating sources.

Cumberland Fire District knows the importance of following basic fire safety advice. We hope you find these "COLD FACTS" helpful.

PLANNING AHEAD

There is a 100 percent chance of cold weather-and the need for home heating-every year.

So, the first cold fact is plan ahead. Planning ahead does not require much time or money-just the willingness to want to prevent a tragedy before it occurs. The most important planning facts are:

1. Keep your smoke detector working. Never remove the battery.

The price of a battery is not worth deactivating one of the most valuable protection systems around.

And don't forget to test your detector monthly. Adults can blow smoke from a candle or match to see if the detector sounds. If the detector begins intermittent chirping, it is a signal the battery is losing power. Replace it immediately.

2. Keep a charged fire extinguisher handy at all

times. However, if you have a fire that is large or spreading rapidly, do not try to extinguish it by yourself. Immediately leave the house, getting other members out if possible.

Call 9-1-1 from a nearby phone.

3. Practice family fire drills. Everyone should know at least two exits out of a bedroom. If equipment is needed, such as a rope or chain ladder for escape from a second-story window, purchase it as soon as possible and store in a readily accessible place (under bed). Everyone should know what to do when the smoke detector sounds.

Emphasize the importance of each family member escaping and meeting outdoors at your pre-selected location (such as sidewalk, mailbox, curb) away from the fire.

4. Memorize the emergency number for fire, emergency medical service and police response: 9-1-1.

When you call this number from a safe location, know your address and the name of the closet intersecting street to your location. Remain calm. Do not hang up until the fire department tells you.

5. Observe the cold facts. The following precautions

regarding different types of heating sources will keep you safe and warm.

PORTABLE HEATERS

When you choose a portable heater, purchase one approved by a nationally known safety testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories or Factory Mutual. Look for a heater with a broad, solid base, as well as an automatic cut-off switch which operates when a unit is tipped over.

Thoroughly read all manufacturer's instructions about the installation and use of portable heaters. Keep the instructions in an accessible place, so you can re-read the operating and safety precautions every year.

Place your portable heater so that radiating elements and surfaces are not directed toward objects such as furniture, paper, curtains, and people. (Three-foot clearance is recommended.) Especially watch children and elderly people around portable heaters. Place heaters away from stairways, doors and other traffic paths.

Never hang objects to dry on your heater.

Caution children against poking their fingers or other objects through the protective guard of the heater.

ELECTRIC HEATERS

Check cords on electric heaters. If the cord is frayed or split, or hot to the touch, have it replaced by a professional. Avoid overloading a circuit.

Some heaters require separate circuits because of high wattage. If in doubt about overloading a circuit, consult an electrician.

Do not use an extension cord with a portable heater unless it is a heavy duty cord rated as high as the current rating listed on the heater. Never run a heater or extension cord under carpet or rugs.

Do not use an electric space heater in a bathroom. Do not touch while wet.

LIQUID FUELED HEATERS

Always use the right fuel in a heater-fuel recommended by the manufacturer. Do not use substitutes or lower grade fuels. Never use gasoline-even for cleaning-as it gives off deadly fumes. Do not smoke when handling flammable liquids.

Store flammable liquids in special containers outside the residence at all times.

Never fill a heater with oil or kerosene inside your residence. A fuel spill can be dangerous. Avoid filling a heater completely with oil or kerosene because as fuel warms, it expands; a spill could cause a flare-up. Let the heater cool before refueling.

When using portable heaters, be sure there is proper ventilation to avoid carbon monoxide accumulation.

NATURAL GAS OR LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) HEATERS

Buy a space heater approved by a nationally known safety testing laboratory.

Thoroughly read all manufacturer's instructions about the installation and use of your gas heater. Keep the instructions in an accessible place, so you can re-read the operating and safety precautions every year.

Space heaters need space. Allow at least three feet of empty space from the front of your heater and other objects such as furniture, paper, curtains and people. Especially watch children and elderly people around space heaters.

Use metal connectors and tubing for a gas space heater. Never use a rubber hose.

Periodically check heater for the proper mixture of gas and air.

When using gas space heaters, light the match before turning on the gas to the burner, thus avoiding the risk of a flare-up from accumulated gas.

If there is a strong gas smell, turn off gas flow and ventilate by opening windows or doors. Call immediately for gas service personnel.

FIREPLACES

When using a fireplace, cover the opening with a sturdy metal screen or heat-tempered glass doors to reduce the chance of a fire starting from flying sparks or rolling logs.

Open the damper before starting any fire. Begin blaze with kindling.

Never use lighter fluid, kerosene, gasoline, charcoal lighter fluid or other flammable liquids to ignite a fire.

Remember to keep matches used to start a fire out of the reach of children.

Do not use trash as a fireplace fuel. Burning gift wrappings and packaging can create a "flash fire," as well as produce toxic fumes in poorly ventilated fire places.

Fireplaces should have a hearth made of approved non-combustible material such as brick, stone, ceramic, and tile. Do not place rugs or other highly flammable materials nearby.

Before and after each heating season, check the chimney for crumbling bricks, loose mortar, obstructions and the build-up of creosote. (Creosote is carried up the chimney as a vapor, some of which cools, condenses and adheres to chimney walls. With each fire burned, the gummy tar-like substance builds up with the soot to cover the chimney with a flammable residue layer.)

Vacuum of chemical cleaners are not a totally effective way of removing the creosote layer. Qualified personnel should perform cleaning and repairs.

Keep a charged fire extinguisher near the fireplace.

If using man-made logs, follow directions on the package. Many commercial products are not designed for use in pre-fabricated fireplaces, such as those found in many apartments, because of the intense heat produced by artificial logs.

Never break a man-made

log apart to quicken a fire.

Never leave a fire unattended. Plan the duration of the fire with a departure or bedtime. Do not use water to cool a fire in a fireplace. This can crack the hot firebrick lining. Do not close a damper with hot ashes in the fireplace. A closed damper can cause hot ashes to build up heat, and thus be a potential hazard.

Do not remove ashes from the fireplace for disposal until they are totally cold. Avoid a large build-up of ashes in the fireplace.

OTHER HEATING ADVICE

Central Heating: Have professionals periodically check and clean the system. Leave central heating repairs to experts.

Keep trash and combustible storage away from the heating system. Mobile homes are equipped with specially designed heating equipment. Follow manufacturers' directions for use and maintenance.

OTHER TIPS

Do not use a gas or electric range or oven to heat a kitchen or other rooms.

Frozen pipes? Don't try to thaw them with a torch or other open flames.

Snow is frequent in Cumberland. If there is a heavy fall, don't forget to clear the fire hydrant while cleaning driveways and walks.

If you lose your source of heating temporarily, and cannot seek other shelter, here are some basic rules for staying warm:

1. Wear wool clothing if possible.

2. Wear layers of clothing instead of a single layer of thick clothing. Similarly, several lightweight blankets are better than one heavy covering.

3. Wear a wool hat, especially while sleeping, since three-quarters of body heat is lost through the head.

4. Eat well-balanced meals.

Let's all have a safe and wonderful winter season!

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Thank you to everyone who submitted photos and recipes for the Winter Laker.



Special thanks to the Cumberland Holiday Station Store for sharing their deer pictures with us.

Shallow Lake Ice Fishing Contest



Hunter Ross • 8 pt. Buck



Weighing fish at the Barronett Ice Fishing Contest



Folgelberg girls landing the "big" one at the Barronett Ice Fishing Contest held on Shallow Lake

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Isabella and Isaac Neitzel fishing together at the Barronett Ice Fishing Contest

BLUE HILLS TRAIL Bruce, Wis.

Trail Options: 20 + miles of trails groomed for classical and skating. Many intersecting loops allow for tours of various configurations. Dogs permitted on the Westside Trails only (west side of Firelane Road).
 Trail Description: Daily trail grooming reports posted at: <http://www.bluehillstrail.com>, Dedicated snowshoe trail starting from the warming house. Two loops - 1.45km and 1.13km
 Facilities: Parking, pit toilet, warming building, snowshoe trails
 Fees: Donations (\$5 suggested)
 Info: bluehillstrail@gmail.com
 Website: <http://www.bluehillstrail.com>

COON LAKE TRAIL Frederic, Wis.

Trail Options: 5.3km groomed for skating and classical with segments of easy and intermediate difficulty and one series of steep, more difficult loops.
 Trail Description: 5.3 km groomed for skating and classical with segments of easy and Intermediate difficulty and one series of steep, more difficult loops. Active eagle nest on trail. Maps available at trail head.
 Facilities: Parking. Food and lodging nearby
 Fees: Donations
 Info: 715/ 327-4294, 800/222-POLK
 Website: <http://www.polkcountytourism.com>

ROCKMANS WOOD'S Barron, Wis.

Trail Options: 3.4km of trails through a mature oak-maple forest and 1.9km of open field skiing for a total of 5.3km groomed to 12 feet wide with a classic track as conditions allow. Two miles of snowshoe trails behind the high school in Barron.
 Trail Description: The trail system consists of 3.4 km of trails through a mature oak-maple forest on the south side of the City of Barron Wisconsin.
 Facilities: Parking. Food, lodging, nearby in Barron.
 Fees: Suggested daily trail fee donation is \$5
 Info: 715/ 537-6246 - Barron Co SWCD
 Website: <https://bantatrails.wordpress.com/>

SPOONER CITY TRAIL Spooner, Wis.

Trail Options: 6 km. of beginner, intermediate, and advanced trails.
 Trail Description: Though it offers only six kilometers, it has a good variety of trail offerings with sections for beginner, intermediate, and advanced skiers. Lighted trails.
 Fat bikes allowed on a portion of the trails.
 Facilities: Parking. Food, lodging, ski shop near by in Spooner.
 Fees: Donations Accepted
 Info: 800/367-3306
 Snowshoeing Permitted

AMERICAN BIRKEBEINER TRAIL Cable, Seeley, & Hayward, Wis.

Trail Options: Point to point Birkie trail from Cable to Hayward, 42km. Point to point Birkie Classic Trail from Cable to Cty. OO, 27km. Numerous loop options between Cty. OO and the North End Cabin Trail Head.
 Trail Description: The American Birkebeiner Ski Trail, better known as simply the Birkie Trail, is the big game in town and there's probably not another trail like it in the country. Not only is it a single continuous trail of over 50 kilometers in length, it is without question, one of the most challenging nordic skiing experiences to be found anywhere. A series of lighted loops are also available at the OO Trailhead.
 Facilities: Trail Heads: Fish Hatchery Park - parking, pit toilet, warming building, food/lodging and ski shop nearby; Mosquito Brook - parking, pit toilet; OO - parking, pit toilet, warming building, water, food, Lighted trail
 Fees: \$10.00 daily/\$30.00 annual per vehicle. \$50.00 daily per bus ? Fish Hatchery Park, Mosquito Brook, C
 Info: 715/ 634-5025, birkie@cheqnet.net
 Website: <http://www.birkie.com/>

Timberland Hills Ski Area

If you are looking for a cross-country ski trail that offers everything, look no further than Timberland Hills and Timberland West!

Timberland Hills is located about nine miles northwest of Cumberland, Wisconsin, on County Highway H. This 24 kilometer (15 mile) trail system situated on 2400 wooded acres of Burnett County forest land is ideally suited for XC skiing. From gentle rolling terrain to the screaming hills of "The Ridge Run" and the "Outer Loop", Timberland Hills offers fun and excitement for the beginning skier to the expert. As local skiers often say, "They don't call it Timberland "Hills" for nothing!"

Timberland West is a two kilometer (1.2 mile) lighted out-and-back ski trail. It is located just 1 1/2 miles south of Timberland Hills on County Highway H. The Timberland West Lighted Trail meanders through 500 acres of Barron County forest land. This is a beginner-type trail with gently rolling

terrain and no large hills. During the ski season, the lights come on at dusk and stay on until 11:00 PM. It is also available as a beginner-level trail during daylight hours.

Both trail systems are groomed for classic and skate skiing. Both have a warming hut and outdoor bathrooms. The Timberland Hills system warming hut has been newly renovated, and a machine shed has been constructed to store grooming machinery.

Timberland Hills and Timberland West were built and are maintained by the "Cumberland Area Ski Touring Association." The CASTA Ski Club procured land usage agreements with both Burnett and Barron Counties to build and maintain the ski trails, but receives no funding from them. CASTA operates by fund-raisers, donations, and memberships.

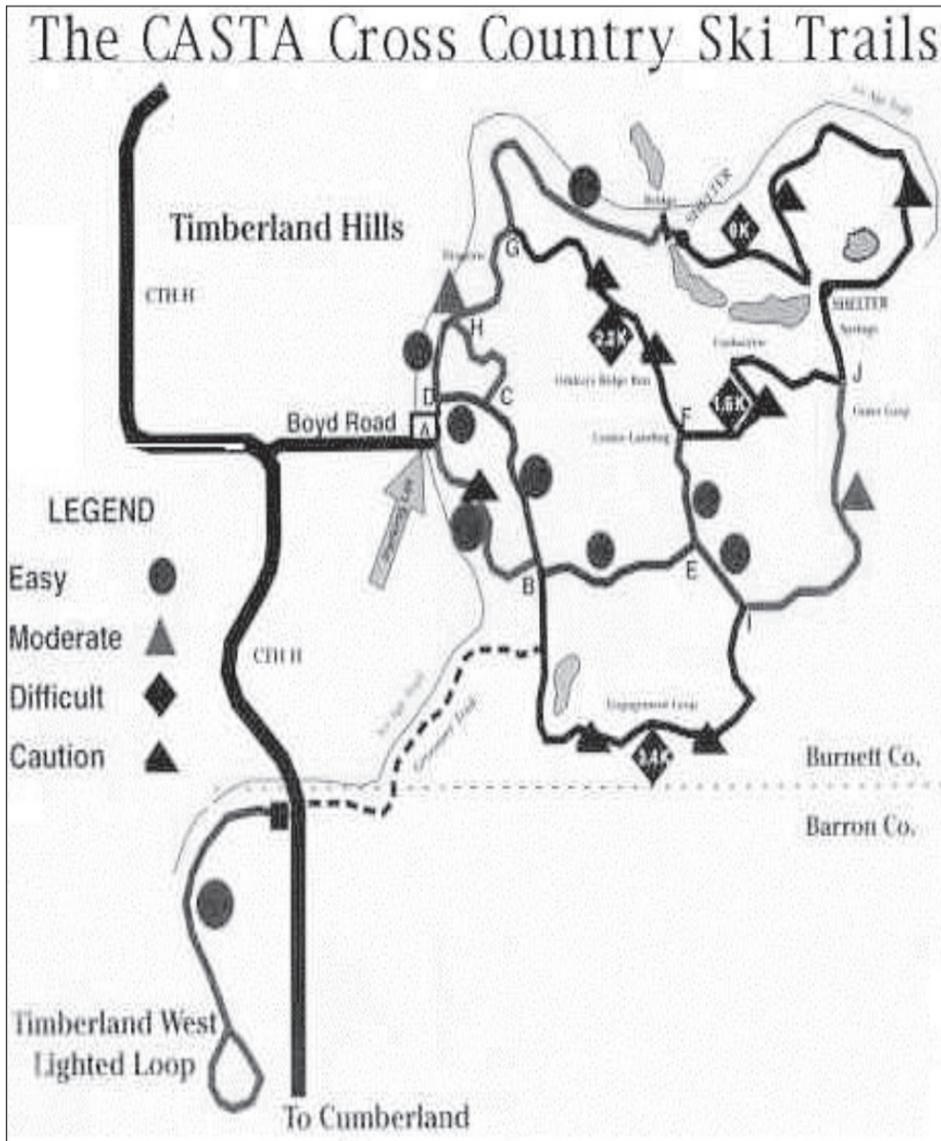
The ski trails are typically open December through March, depending on snow conditions. The remainder of the year, the Timberland

trails are open for hiking, hunting, horseback riding, and biking. Motorized vehicles are not allowed. CASTA also shares a portion of the Timberland trail system with the Ice Age Trail.

Timberland Hills and Timberland West serve as one of the premier cross-country ski areas in northwestern Wisconsin. Skiers of all abilities will find that are both beautiful and fun to ski. From Cumberland, take a left on County Highway H north of Cumberland. Drive 8.5 miles. The Timberland West Lighted Trail is on the left side of the highway. To reach the main Timberland Hills trail, drive an additional mile on Highway H, turn right on Boyd Road (gravel), and drive for one mile. The parking lot is on the left.

Check out the CASTA website at <http://www.timberlandhills.com/> for trail maps and conditions, directions, weather, photos, and donation, membership, and contact information.

Get out & enjoy some great skiing!



Feeling lucky?



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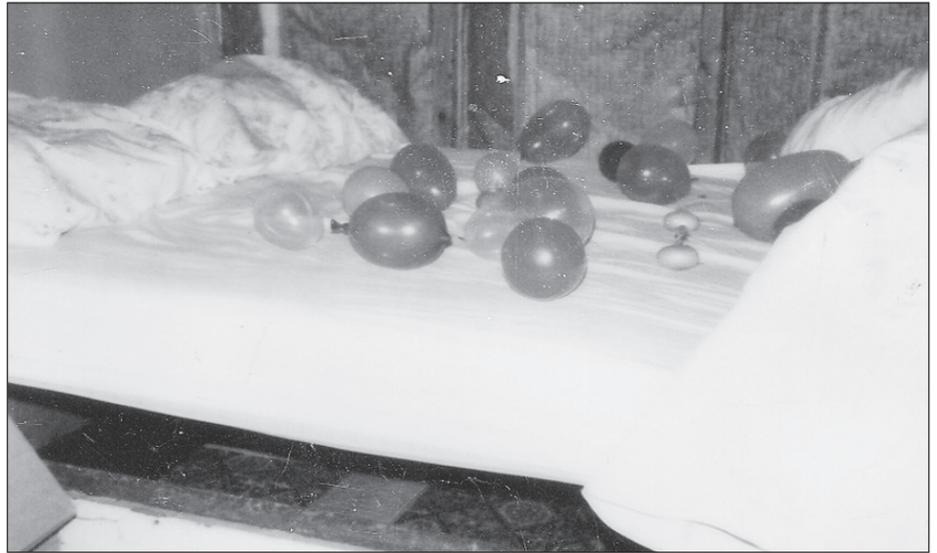


Larry Ruetz • 10 pt. Buck



Amanda Rustong • 8 pt. Buck

Deer Camp Shenanagins!



While Roger and Glenda Johnson took a break from the deer shack to go home and shower, Chuck Penney, Mike Johnson, and Todd Frederickson filled their bed with water balloons and onions! Good one, guys!



Thanksgiving at the deer shack in 1985. From left to right: Todd Frederickson, Mike Johnson, Glenda Johnson, Roger Johnson, and Karen Smith get ready to enjoy dinner.

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Hail, hail the Gang's all here!



The gang at the Nelson deer camp 2017

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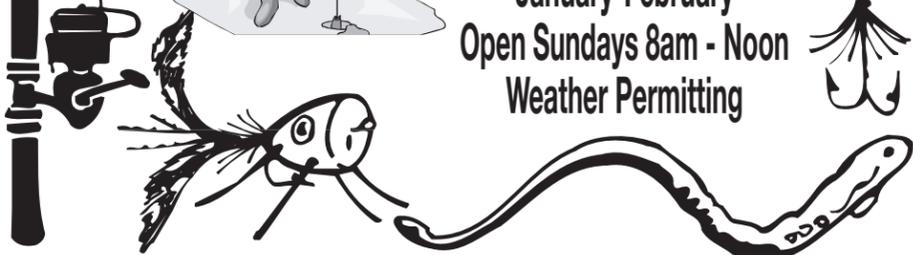
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Drew Hershman and grandpa Pat with a 9 pt. Buck



Randy Kahl • 9 pt. Buck

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