

# *The Breeze*

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**Water Ski  
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# Juveniles in custody after police chase

After chasing a stolen vehicle across county lines on June 25, police later took a pair of juvenile suspects into custody in Waukesha County.

The City of Whitewater police department issued a news release following the incident.

According to the release, police received a report of a stolen vehicle from a parking lot on North Tratt Street.

About 20 minutes later, officers located the vehicle being driven. When police tried to stop the vehicle, the driver fled. With speeds exceeding 100 miles an hour, police followed the vehicle into Jefferson County.

Jefferson County Sheriff's Department deputies tried deploying spike strips, but were unable to stop the vehicle.

When the chase went into Waukesha County, Whitewater police stopped the chase due to reported traffic hazards.

The vehicle was later found stationary near the intersection of Highway 67 and Wilton Road, with reported heavy damage. The two suspects were located with the help of Waukesha County Sheriff's Department deputies and taken into custody without incident.

The two suspects are being confined at Washington County Juvenile Detention Facility, with charges of operating without the owner's consent, fleeing an officer, recklessly endangering safety, reckless driving, and driving without a license pending.

In the release, the Whitewater Police Department reminded residents to lock vehicles and make sure keys are not left in cars.

Three vehicles had been reported stolen within a recent week, and all three were unlocked with readily accessible keys.

# City, school district agree on pool funding

The City of Whitewater and the Whitewater Unified School District have agreed to a six-year partnership to jointly fund the Whitewater Aquatic and Fitness Center, located at Whitewater High School.

The agreement covers both operational costs and capital equipment needs.

The city announced the agreement in late May with a news release, and said the agreement "guarantees the continued operation of the WAFC for at least the next six years."

The release went on to state, "Moving forward, the city is committed to enhancing the WAFC by making significant improvements to locker rooms, and birthday party offerings, and upgrading technology for a better user experience.

"With the security provided by this agreement, the city is now able to move forward confidently with staffing, operational, and equipment updates. Now that the agreement is finalized, the city will launch a comprehensive fundraising platform to ensure the WAFC receives support from a diverse range of contributors."

That would include memberships, taxpayer contributions, fundraising efforts, donations, and programming fees, such as

birthday party rentals.

"This strategy aims to establish a sustainable future for the WAFC, providing essential amenities to the community and securing the necessary resources to attract and retain crucial staff," the release said.

Patrick Singer, Whitewater Common Council President, said, "The WAFC is an important asset to our community, and I am thankful an agreement has been reached to ensure a stable partnership between the city and school district. I am extremely grateful for the hard work both organizations put into making this a reality."

City Manager John Weidl also expressed his gratitude.

"I am extremely grateful for the school district's partnership in the WAFC and want the community to understand that it truly is a joint effort and we couldn't have done it without them," Weidl said. "I especially want to thank the new school board president for seeing this agreement over the finish line."

Weidl also acknowledged late Council President Jim Allen's contributions.

"His dedication to pushing for a long-term agreement and his participation in the negotiations were crucial," Weidl explained. "He would be happy to see this agreement finalized."



Steph Boismenu works to clean a boat in an effort to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. The DNR recently issued a series of tips for boaters to stop the spread.

JEANNE SCHERER PHOTO/WISCONSIN DNR *The Breeze*

# Boaters reminded to stop the spread of invasive species

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources issued a series of reminders for boaters to stop the spread of invasive plants and animals.

The Great Lakes Landing Blitz is a collaboration of the Great Lakes states and provinces that aims to educate boaters that simple clean-up steps and draining water from the boat and live wells can help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

"We can all make a difference whether we are enjoying the water with a fishing or recreational boat, jet ski, or paddle craft," the DNR wrote in a news release.

The collaboration's annual event was held earlier this month and featured volunteers and regional aquatic invasive species prevention partners greeting many Wisconsin boaters at landings and access points.

Clean Boats Clean Waters boat inspectors gave out a boat trailer sticker with

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The  
**Breeze**

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**on the cover:** The season of spending time out on the lake is here, from an early morning fishing excursion or relaxing afternoon on a pontoon to waterskiing and kayaking. Those not fond of being out on the water can consider sitting on a pier or along the shoreline while taking in the lake breeze on a summer day.

STOCK PHOTO *The Breeze*

# City meetings now streamed on YouTube

By **Dave Fidlin**

CORRESPONDENT

Residents and other people interested in what takes place within the confines of Whitewater's municipal meetings now have the opportunity to view proceedings on one of the most popular platforms available.

The City of Whitewater, through its public access Whitewater Community TV platform on TV 990, had been offering live streaming and archived video meeting content through Vimeo. Moving forward, however, the city is opting to upload its content through YouTube.

Chief of Staff Becky Magestro – who handles public relations, communications and community TV operations through the city manager's office – provided an update on the transition at a Common Council meeting June 4.

"This was the first live meeting," Magestro said. "From this point on, we plan to do all of the council meetings live. I think we are good to go."

Magestro indicated the city plans to use YouTube's "live" functionality to make telecast council and committee meetings available to the public as they are happening. Once the live broadcast has ended, users will be able to view them immediately afterward.

In her recent report to the council on the transition, Magestro also shared an update on the migration of older, archived council and committee meetings from Vimeo to YouTube.

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# Innovation Center, Tech Park MOU review underway

By **Dave Fidlin**

CORRESPONDENT

A new memorandum of understanding for an agreement with the Whitewater Innovation Center and Technology Park remains under review as the current document sunset at the midway point of this year.

The board of directors overseeing the Whitewater Community Development Authority – which is one of four parties engaged in the cooperative agreement for the innovation center and technology park – recently discussed the process of approving a new MOU.

Board member Joe Kromholz represents the CDA on the Tech Park Board, which has oversight of the Whitewater-University Technology Park Inc. Kromholz has been working with other participants to update and extend the new MOU.

At the CDA board's most recent meeting June 20, Kromholz suggested officials hold off on casting a definitive vote for one specific logistical reason – having newly hired legal counsel review the document and weigh in.

"It would be counterproductive to approve it, without first using the legal counsel that we just

obtained," Kromholz said.

The existing MOU for the innovation center and technology park between all of the parties expired June 30. At the recent meeting, the CDA's board voted to extend the expiration of the existing document out for an additional 90 days, through Sept. 30.

Based on the draft document, the new agreement is expected to run for an additional three years, through 2027.

The new agreement includes several provisions, including spelling out the relationship between all of the parties. In addition to the CDA and Tech Park Board, other parties involved in the agreement include the City of Whitewater and UW-Whitewater.

Language in party commitments and understandings in the new agreement contain several provisions.

One, for instance, states, "The CDA, city and university all want to be informed and share updates regarding the Whitewater University Innovation Center. For the purpose of ensuring stakeholder communications, the advisory panel shall meet from time to time, preferably no more than four times per year."

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

### Local water ski shows

Remaining shows for the Southern Wakes United Ski Team this year are on Whitewater Lake at the Scenic Ridge Campground, Lauderdale Landing on Lauderdale Lakes, and Babe Mann Park on Elkhorn Lake.

### WHITEWATER LAKE Scenic Ridge Campground Whitewater

All shows are at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

- Saturday, July 27
- Friday, Aug. 16

### LAUDERDALE LAKES Lauderdale Landing, Elkhorn

All shows are at 6 p.m.

- Friday, Aug. 9
- Friday, Aug. 23

### ELKHORN LAKE Babe Mann Park, Elkhorn

Saturday shows are at 6 p.m.; Sunday shows are at noon

- Sunday, July 14
- Sunday, Aug. 18 (Alumni Show)
- Saturday, Aug. 31

See a feature story on the Southern Wakes United team along with two other competitive area teams on page 7.

### Farmers markets

Markets throughout the area vary as far as the number of vendors on any given week as well as the items available. But they seem to share a common goal – featuring products from locals, including farms, growers, artisans, and others.

Here is information on the two local Whitewater markets as well as a few others in the area:

#### Whitewater City Market

The City Market is held Tuesdays, 4 to 7 p.m. through Sept. 22, (4 to 6 p.m., Sept. 29 to Oct. 29).

It brings area farmers, artisans, food carts, and the community together to create not only a unique shopping experience but a celebration of what is local. Hosted by Downtown Whitewater, this vibrant market includes music, kids' activities, and a variety of vendors.

The market is held near the Whitewater Depot, 301 W. Whitewater St. (Note that during the cooler months, the City Market is held 10 a.m. to noon, Saturdays, at Irvin L. Young Memorial Library, 413 Center St.)

For more information, follow Whitewater City Market on Facebook or email whitewatercitymarket@gmail.com.

#### Whitewater Farmers Market

The Whitewater Farmers Market is open every Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon, through October in the Depot Museum parking lot, 301 W. Whitewater St.

This producer only market features a variety of locally grown produce, eggs, baked goods, flowers, artisan crafts and more. For more information, follow Whitewater Farmers Market on Facebook or visit whitewaterfarmersmarket.com.

#### Palmyra Farmers Market

The Palmyra Farmers Market (also known as Makers Market) is held Mondays until Sept. 30 on Taft Street between 2nd and 3rd streets.

This maker's market is a bustling haven of fresh produce, artisanal foods, and lively entertainment. A community gather place where people come together to celebrate food and culture, connect with their neighbors, and support local businesses.

For more information, follow Palmyra Makers Market on Facebook or email abcdfarmhouse@outlook.com.

#### Market at Tower Park

The market in Delavan is held Thursdays, 3 to 6 p.m. to Aug. 29 at Tower Park, (between Walworth Avenue and Park Place) in downtown Delavan.

Featuring home-grown and hand-crafted items, fresh produce, eggs, baked goods, plants, and more.

For more information, call 262-728-5095 or email info@delavanwi.org.

#### Saturdays on the Square

This farmers market is in Elkhorn on Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., through Aug. 31. It features a variety of fresh produce, crafts, commercial products and more.

Vendors set-up on a first come first serve basis with plenty of room for all who attend. Find food trucks and a morning workout on the square and get your weekends started off right!

Held at Veterans Park, 100 W. Walworth St., Elkhorn. For more information, email info@elkhornchamber.com.

### More to do

#### Duesterbeck's Brewing Company, N5543 Highway O, Elkhorn –

Duesterbeck's has live music most weekends at its location, as well as weekday events. For more information, call 262-729-9771 or go to dbcbrewery.com.

#### The Vinery, 218 Elkhorn Rd.,

**Whitewater** – Classes are available throughout the summer at varying times, to teach fused glass techniques. Register at The Vinery by calling 262-458-2209.

# CDA backs mobile food ordinance

By **Dave Fidlin**

CORRESPONDENT

Language on the dos and don'ts of running a mobile food establishment in Whitewater could soon be added to the city's books as a draft document works through several channels within municipal government.

At a recent regular monthly business meeting, the board of directors overseeing Whitewater's Community Development Authority gave a favorable recommendation to an ordinance pertaining to food truck operators.

"We have seen an increased want for food trucks," Economic Development Director Taylor Zeinert said. "We have seen people want to come to the city, we have seen people inquire about pursuing one. Because of that, staff decided to look at the ordinance change, just to make sure it was up to date."

The Common Council had a preliminary discussion in May about a potential mobile food truck ordinance. At the time, the council voted to forward the draft on to several panels – including the CDA board – for deeper analysis and a recommendation.

While the city addresses mobile food trucks in municipal code, Zeinert said the more specific ordinance is designed to address the growing popularity of mobile food trucks.

"The city currently has a transient merchant license," Zeinert said. "It is not as in-depth as this one. It does cover mobile food establishments, but not to this capacity. Staff decided that once we saw strong interest in it, we wanted to update our ordinance so that we were being held to the 2024 standard."

As drafted, the city's ordinance contains many of the components already outlined in state statute. Issues such as public health and safety are included in the document, as are other city-specific issues, such as zoning and where specifically mobile food trucks could be parked.

During deliberations, several CDA board members weighed in on mobile food trucks, in general, and some of the steps the city should have in place.

CDA board member Christ Christon, who serves as operations manager and owner at Second Salem Brewing Co., said he hoped mobile food vendors would face the same standards that are in place for brick-and-mortar bars and restaurants.

Because this is the first time Whitewater is going down the path of having specific documentation in place that paves the way for mobile food vendors, Christon gave several views on what course the city might want to pursue in detailing requirements.

"Sometimes if you spell things out too much, it deters business, so I think it goes both ways," Christon said. "But I would like things spelled out. This is the first time we're putting forth a set structure for this type of business to come."

With business friendliness in mind, the tentative plan in motion is to forgo charging any type of fee at the municipal level to operate a mobile food truck, though the city could require a \$7 reimbursement for conducting a background check.

The state, which requires all mobile food vendors to obtain a license, does charge a fee, which is one of the reasons several council members in May expressed hesitation in adding an additional municipal one on top of it.



## Tips for safe boat anchoring

Following basic guidelines can help ensure safety

It's no surprise that the busiest time of the year for America's recreational boat owners is, hands down, the month of July, though it generally takes place throughout the summer whenever the weather cooperates.

It also may be the time many boaters will spend the day on the water at anchor, enjoying fishing holes, raft-ups, and time with family and friends.

The BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water has the following tips to help boaters spend time on the water safely at anchor.

### BE ANCHOR SMART

Before heading out, make sure your anchoring gear is up to snuff including that the bitter end is secured. You may not have used it yet this boating season, so be sure all is good to go for whatever anchoring arrangement – a picnic hook, extra fenders for a raft-up, or shoreside tie-up requiring a second line.

When arriving to your gathering spot and setting anchor, ensure you let out enough scope for the depth and predicted weather conditions.

Show some courtesy if things get crowded. On the other hand, don't be that guy who runs into an anchorage throwing a wake or who is completely oblivious to

those around him.

### DON'T STRESS IT

Anchoring tends to be a long day on the water. Be careful with stressors including noise, vibration, sun, wind, waves, and other motion.

U.S. Coast Guard research shows that four hours of exposure to these can produce a kind of fatigue, or "boater's hypnosis," which slows reaction time almost as much as if you were legally drunk. Adding alcohol makes it worse.

For your boat, don't stress your battery playing music all day. TowBoatUS reports calls to its 24-hour dispatch for battery jump services surge – as if on cue – at the end of the day when boaters want to head home.

### GET HOME SAFELY

Before departing an anchorage, wait to turn on the engine until everyone is back aboard and ladder is up. If in a crowded area, proceed with utmost caution.

It's always better to wait a few minutes for everyone to clear out and give a chance for wakes to subside before departing. Be patient and, again, give as much courtesy as you can.

Everyone aboard should be acting as a lookout. Never take a

shortcut home after dark.

### AVOID CO POISONING

Generators give boaters the creature comforts they want. However, don't run the generator if you've got swimmers in the water at the back of the boat – a common place for guests to congregate on floats and pool toys. This is where exhaust ports often located, spewing dangerous, odorless carbon monoxide.

### ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water is a national leader promoting safe, clean and responsible boating.

Funded primarily by donations from the nearly 800,000 members of Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS), the nonprofit provides innovative educational outreach directly to boaters and anglers with the aim of reducing accidents and fatalities, increasing stewardship of America's waterways and keeping boating safe for all.

A range of safe and clean boating courses – including the nation's largest free online boating safety course – can be found on the foundation's website.

For more information, visit [boatus.org](http://boatus.org).

The July 4 holiday kicked off what is generally the busiest time of year for recreational boat owners including many who spend time at anchor. The BoatUS Foundation offers several tips to help boaters safely anchor while out on the water.

BOATUS FOUNDATION PHOTO *The Breeze*

# Guide to buying a pontoon

By **Valerie Streif**

CONTRIBUTOR

Do you dream about getting on the water every weekend during the summer months? Looking for a new way to bring your family together while enjoying the outdoors? Have you always wanted to own a pontoon to be able to provide a fun space on the water for your favorite people?

If the answer is yes, and buying a pontoon is on your radar, we've got all your questions and concerns covered.

Pontoons are one of the most popular choices of pleasure craft, thanks to their comfort and versatility. You can enjoy almost any activity on a pontoon — sunbathing, fishing, and water sports like tubing, and there's plenty of space onboard for all passengers to be comfortable. They are also great for exploring, since you can easily beach a pontoon on a sandbar or remote beach for a camping trip.

Need to stop for a swim? A pontoon's swim ladder will be easy to climb back on the boat, and many pontoons have ample storage space for putting your floating mats and inflatables once you're back to cruising.

## THE PROS AND CONS

Purchasing a boat is a huge decision, and there are plenty of considerations to take before you hand over the money. Of course, you've got to take your own personal circumstances, budget, logistics, and more into consideration, and we can't make a firm recommendation one way or another — but if you're weighing your options, here are some of the reasons on either side that we've found to be true.

### THE PROS

- Smooth cruising — often considered the SUV of the water, a pontoon offers a stable and smooth ride. That's because the boat's weight distribution across the toons provides extra stability when cruising on rough water, and as a result, pontoons rarely capsize.

Their wide turn radius, while an objective limitation, actually results in a smoother overall ride when you're not trying to turn on a dime, which is perfect for cruising with small children or elderly folks. They also often have features like nosecones and wave tamers that act like shock absorbers, so you won't feel the impact as you cruise over small waves and chop.

- Family friendly — a pontoon for families of any size will provide the best atmosphere for most everyone. Pontoons



There are many factors to consider when looking to purchase a pontoon boat, from how family friendly and versatile different styles are to maintenance and other expected costs. BoatUS offers guidelines that can help with the decision-making process.

GODFREY PONTOON BOATS PHOTO *The Breeze*

have high railings to keep small children contained, plenty of space for teenagers to bring their friends on board, and the ability to tow kids for fun water sports.

It's a great multi-generational boat, too, because it's very easy to board for older family members, and grandma and grandpa will appreciate the smooth ride.

- Versatility — while pontoons don't necessary excel at any one specific type of water, the benefit is that it's a great all-around pick for just about anything you'd want to do out on a casual boat day: water sports, fishing, lounging, picnics, or exploring remote areas.

Because of their open design and spacious seating, they're also great for hosting an event on the water and getting together with your favorite people.

- Easy to maintain — because pontoons are powered by outboard engines, they are easier to service and require much less maintenance than inboard motors

and other styles of boats. As long as you properly winterize your pontoon, you shouldn't need to do too much maintenance or upkeep to have it running smoothly.

It's very easy to clean - you can hose off most surfaces and easily wipe away any mess that is made while having fun on the water.

### THE CONS

- Water sport limitations — while you can have some fun on tubes or water skis with a pontoon, you can't do everything as well as a standard power boat, due both to a combination of speed limitations and the type of engine. The max speed on pontoons is typically around 40 mph, with most boats operating between 28–35 mph.

The wake is also wider, which is less ideal for wakeboarding. But most importantly, wake surfing should never be done behind a pontoon — since they have

outboard engines, riders would need to be unsafely close to the motor to wake surf.

- Bad weather limitations — storms with high winds and large waves are dangerous for any boat, but especially a pontoon. Without a V-shaped hull, they can't cut through high waves effectively, so in a bad storm, pontoons are easily swamped in these conditions.

Don't go out on your pontoon if there is a storm risk, and of course, always be vigilant about changing weather patterns when out on the water.

- Wide turn radius — due to their wide turning radius, pontoons might be tricky to handle for new boaters, so it's a good idea to practice in safe conditions and always be very cautious when docking or navigating in a tight space.

- Depreciation — if you plan to own a boat for only a few years and then resell

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# Skiing a summertime sight to see

## WATER SKI TEAMS ENTERTAIN CROWDS ON AREA LAKES

By **Sandra Landen Machaj**

CORRESPONDENT

Summer is the time to get out on the water for many. Whether heading out for a day in a canoe or kayak, jumping into a boat for a ride around the lake, or relaxing while lounging on the beach with an occasional dip in the water to stay cool, summer is a season when people flock to area waterways.

While most of us look forward to summer, particularly excited for the warm weather and time out on the lakes are area waterski teams.

The Southern Lakes area and the Chain O’Lakes area – which is just over the stateline, feature several waterski teams that know how to have fun on the water and entertain residents and visitors with regular shows. But that’s not all as they also take their talent to the competitive level and have been very successful, winning titles at the state and even national level for some.

The teams are comprised of volunteer skiers who put in countless hours to perfect their craft and often more than one family members is involved with a team, adding to the fun while mixing in some quality family time.

“Our waterski teams are almost always a family event. There are family members who all get involved and help with the many tasks involved from the actual skiing, boat driving and advertising to show management and a variety of other things that go into the management of a show waterskiing team,” said Mark Gurda, announcer for the

Aquanuts Waterski Show Team in Twin Lakes.

His sentiments were echoed by other area water ski teams, all of whom offer free waterskiing shows, extending the family time theme beyond the team itself.

Here is some additional information on a trio of teams in the area.

### Southern Wakes United

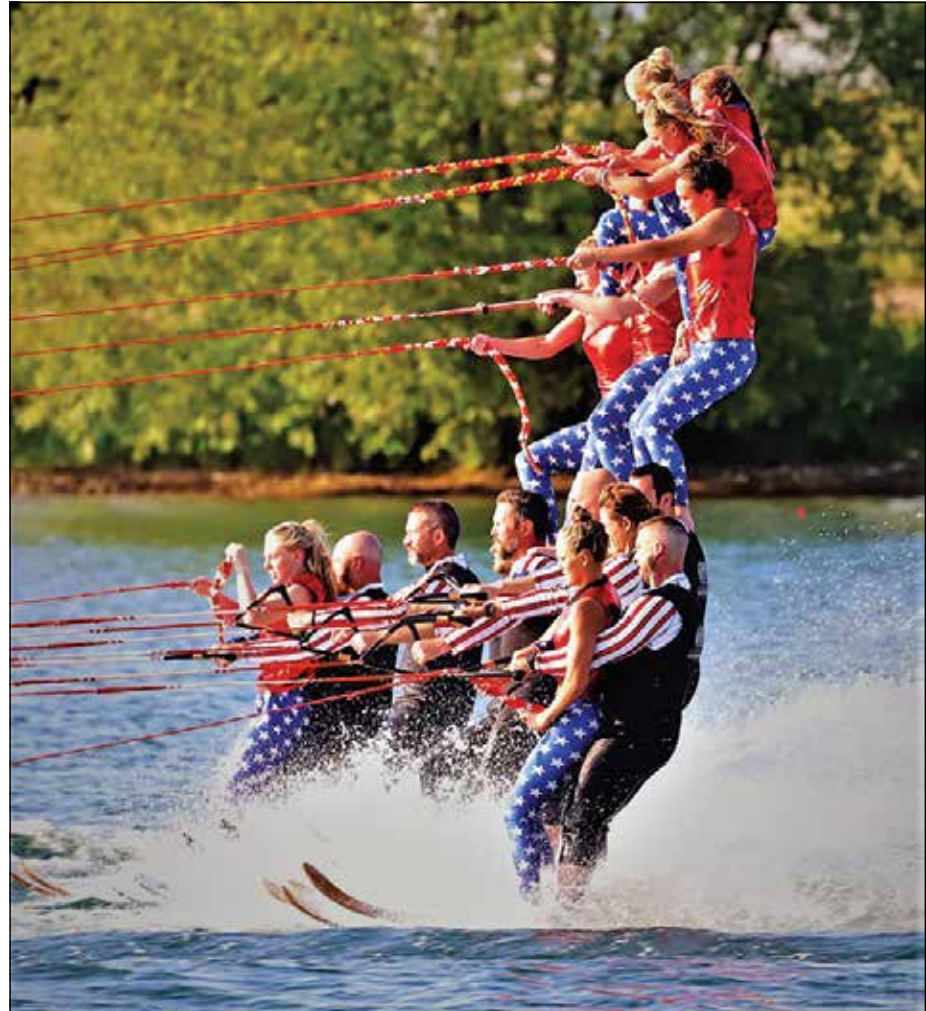
For Southern Wakes United Water Ski Show Team, 2023 was a special year as they won the Wisconsin State Championship in their division. Southern Wakes is a medium sized team and as such competes in Division III.

“This was the first time we won the state title in our division since 1990, so it was an important event for us,” shared Laura Lohrmann, Southern Wakes United Show Director. “Because we won the division, we will move up to Division II this year, where we will compete with larger teams.”

In addition to the team winning the Division III State Championship, it also received first place in several other categories including highest scoring production, drive team, traditional ballet line, most original or unique act, dock and equipment, and best comedy act. They were also nominated for Medium Team of the Year.

Southern Wakes United was formed when two teams joined forces – the Lauderdale

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



Members of the Southern Wakes United team show off patriotic outfits during a performance.

PHOTO COURTESY SOUTHERN WAKES UNITED *The Breeze*



SWU team members get into position for the 3-high pyramid that begins with two portions of it on the dock.

PHOTO COURTESY SOUTHERN WAKES UNITED *The Breeze*



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# The Vinery is a colorful world of stained glass

The Vinery Stained Glass Studio has been teaching people how to create stained glass for over 25 years, according to its website.

“We offer a three-hour stained glass workshop class that provides the opportunity to make a project and get a feel for the steps involved. Many customers tell us that they have always wanted to learn stained glass and are ready to jump in,” staff said.

They recommend the six-week course for those people. It’s an in-depth class that takes students from the beginning to the end of their project.

“You will finish the six weeks with all the knowledge and tools you need to continue the hobby at home,” they said.

People often ask how much it costs to get into stained glass and The Vinery staff can provide an answer and offer some options.

“When starting stained glass, there is an initial investment in tools. Initially, the two most important (and costly) tools are the glass cutter and the soldering iron,” they

explained.

In the beginning classes at the studio, they offer the opportunity to try a variety of cutters before buying one. As for soldering irons, they are available in many sizes and wattages and The Vinery staff suggest an iron between 60 to 100 watts.

“The wattage is a rough indication of the heat the iron will generate. If the iron does not have an internal temperature control, it is highly recommended that you use a rheostat to control the tip temperature,” they said.

Another tool that is more expensive, but makes projects much easier to construct, is a grinder, according to staff.

“Beyond these main tools, you will need the staples of every project: lead or copper foil, flux, solder, patina, and glass.

“For the beginning student, The Vinery offers two different kits to start you on your way. The prices range from \$150 to \$240. Aside from the glass and the grinder, these kits give you everything you will need to

launch yourself in this exciting craft,” they explained.

Those interested are welcome to stop in anytime the studio is open – no class needed – to create a beginner fusing project that’s kid friendly as well.

In addition to classes and fusing projects, the studio does custom stained glass work as well as repairs.

Additionally, they have a wide array of supplies for any art glass and fusible needs. The website has lists of some of what’s carried in the store as far as glass, stained glass supplies and fusing supplies. But if

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

In addition to offering classes teaching people how to create stained glass, The Vinery does custom work such as this piece. Additionally, they sell a wide range of supplies needed for art glass and fusible needs.

THE VINERY STAINED GLASS STUDIO PHOTO *The Breeze*



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# City raises employee compensation rates

By **Dave Fidlin**  
CORRESPONDENT

A months-long review of compensation rates across various departments within Whitewater's municipal government has come to an end – with one caveat.

The Common Council approved salary resolutions in May for permanent staff, as well as part-time and seasonal workers. Effective as of June, the city implemented pay increases across many different positions – from top-level positions to seasonal jobs commonly held by high school and college age students.

"This has been quite a large project and has been in the making for the last few months," Finance Director Rachelle Blich said of the exercise.

At the urging of the council and the Finance Committee, Blich and other city officials reviewed compensation rates in a number of statewide communities that were deemed to have similar characteristics to Whitewater. Among them: Delavan, Elkhorn, Fort Atkinson, Jefferson, Platteville, River Falls, and Weston.

"The communities were chosen based on specific measurable criteria to ensure salary data obtained were from those communities most closely comparable to Whitewater," Blich said.

Big picture, the city is adding \$31,426.96 in additional wages for more than a half-dozen full-time positions in the current fiscal year budget.

The city also is upping hourly rates for part-time and seasonal positions, particularly within parks and recreation, public works and fire/EMS.

Further adjustments to the hourly rate structure for the part-time and seasonal positions are anticipated, however, as several city officials expressed concern some of the positions will not be filled when local fast food establishments offer higher wages.

"I would like to see some of these minimums come up higher, especially if we're trying to recruit college students and get them working for the city," council member Brienne Brown said.

City Manager John Weidl said none of the current pay increases in play will have a negative impact on the municipal budget.

"We don't anticipate any issues within the budget, or the need for a budget amendment," Weidl said.

"We did check the financials and did a stress test. We can absorb this and afford to do it if we're going to continue to hold down the direction that we set our wage rates."



## Never forget

Clockwise from above: in honor of Memorial Day in Whitewater, Jason Dean speaks at a local ceremony; Dr. Richard Haney, and Whitewater American Legion scholarship winners Leah Newman and Emerson Ellenwood are among the guests in the parade; a youngster helps place flags at veterans' graves in Hillside Cemetery; members of VFW Post 173 fire a 21-gun salute.

# • SENIORS in the PARK

## Travel opportunities

Adults of all ages are welcome on trips. Itineraries and additional information are available at the Center or by calling or sending an email.

• **Great Canadian Cities, July 24-Aug. 2** – Get the feel of France without having to fly as far. Take a city tour of Montreal, Quebec, Toronto and Niagara Falls. Take the 1000 Islands cruise and see some large, small, and tiny islands. Enjoy a farewell dinner at the world-famous Skylon Tour.

• **Pacific Northwest and California, Oct. 7-14** – Make your way from Washington to California on this eight-day trip. Enjoy the Washington State ferry, local winery, Redwood National Park, Golden Gate Bridge, and more.

• **Highlights of Italy's Amalfi Coast, Oct. 8-15** – Enjoy a walking tour of Sorrento and try some freshly made mozzarella cheese. Have a day to yourself or take an excursion to the Isle of Capri. Take a guided tour to Naples and enjoy a panoramic Naples City Tour. Experience a guided tour of Pompeii then continue onto the "Eternal City" of Rome.

## Rockin' Respite

Rockin' Respite is in search of someone to volunteer. It could be one or two days per month, morning or afternoon. A nurse is onsite and there is a volunteer assigned to each guest (only four guests at this time).

Sing, play games, do art projects, cook, or whatever is in the person's wheelhouse to make a fun, active day for guests.

Please call 262-473-0535 if interested in volunteering.

## Fitness drumming

Bring your exercise balls, buckets and drumsticks to beat to the rhythm of the music and get some exercise while you do it. Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

## Dementia Friends

Dementia Friends is a campaign to tackle the stigma and lack of understanding around dementia. Dementia Friends sessions help people learn about dementia and the small ways they can help. Please call 262-473-0535 to register.

## New programs

Our new programs have started! We have a Euchre group at 12:30 p.m. And our Cribbage group, which meets at 12:30 p.m. Feel free to stop in and play. Anyone seeking additional information can call 262-473-0535.

## Learn Mah Jongg

Interested in learning how to play? Join this group Mondays at 1 p.m. Reserve a seat by calling 262-473-0535.

## Activities at a glance

- **Pickleball** – Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. – at the Downtown Armory
- **Indoor walking** – Wednesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m.
- **Sewing group** – Fridays at 10 a.m.
- **Warblers** – Mondays at 11 a.m.
- **Book Club** – first Monday of the month at 11 a.m. Books are available at Starin Park
- **Bingo** – first, second, and fourth Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

- **Canasta** – first and third Mondays at 1 p.m.
- **Chicken foot dominoes** – first Tuesday at 1 p.m.
- **Pegs and Jokers** – third Monday at 9:30 a.m.
- **Mah Jongg** – Mondays at 1 p.m.
- **Sheepshead** – Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m.

## Blood Pressure Checks

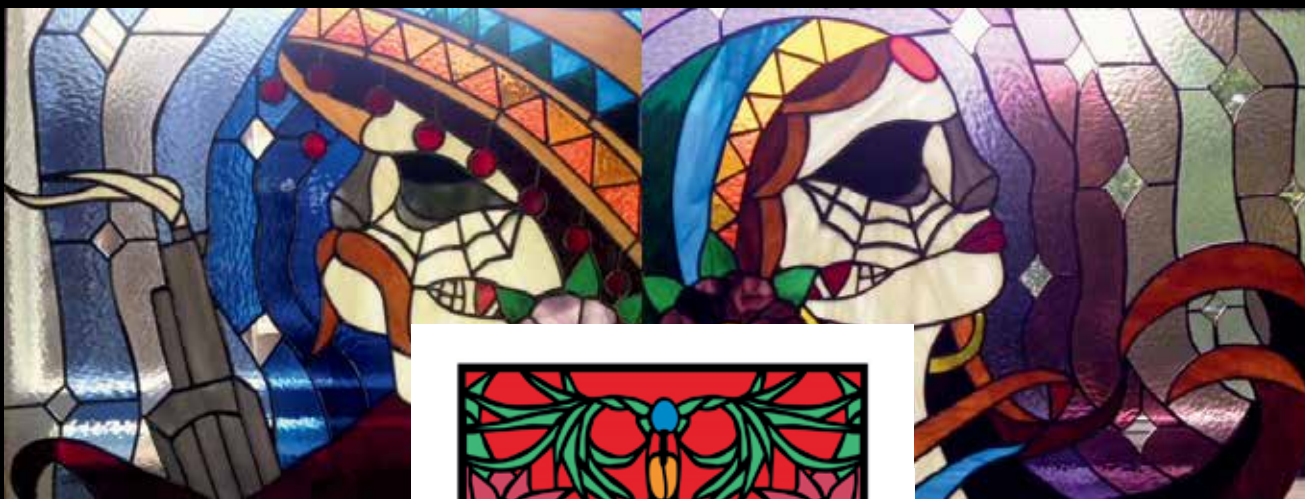
Every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to noon, stop in at the senior center to get your blood pressure checked. Bring your at-home blood pressure cuffs to make sure they are accurate.

## Office hours

The Seniors in the Park office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Thursday; the office is closed on Fridays.

For more information or to sign up for any classes, activities or trips call 262-473-0535 or check out the newsletter available at the Starin Park Community Building, Municipal Building or several businesses in town.

More information is also available at [www.wwparks.org](http://www.wwparks.org) or [whitewater-wi.gov](http://whitewater-wi.gov), Departments, Seniors in the Park.



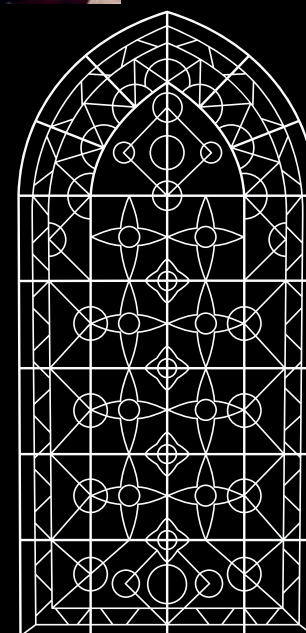
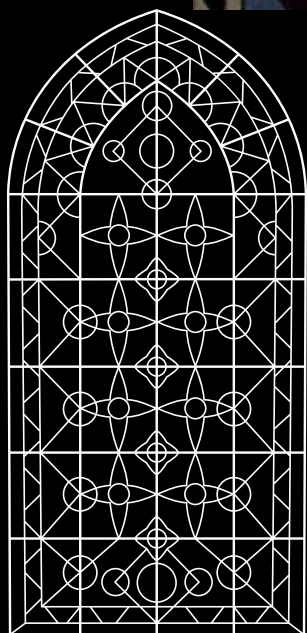
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**PONTOON** • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

it, a pontoon might not be the best choice for you. While a boat loses its value after the initial purchase, regardless of style, pontoons lose their value faster than a lot of other types of boats: about 25% of the resale value after just a couple of years of ownership.

This depreciation is because there is less demand for older pontoon models in the used boat market, and because pontoons are often used more frequently than other types, it's assumed there is more wear-and-tear on them than other styles.

This isn't a problem if you plan on having a pontoon boat for life, but it is something to consider if you're not sure how long owning a boat will be a part of your lifestyle.

### COSTS TO KEEP IN MIND

Pontoons can range dramatically from simple, budget-friendly models to luxurious vessels with state-of-the-art features and high-performance engines, so of course, there's a huge range in prices. Though on average, a mid-market pontoon will generally cost somewhere between \$18,000 and \$60,000.

If you want to spend as little as possible, you can often find used options from a boat dealer for as little as \$15,000. However, with cheaper and older models, it's a good idea to have a professional boat mechanic inspect it before you commit to buying.

On the more expensive side, luxury pontoons from a top manufacturer will cost well over \$100,000, some even closer to \$200,000, when they're customized with special amenities like waterslides, grills, and luxurious features.

If you plan on owning your pontoon boat for a long time, buying a new one might be a better decision since you can enjoy the manufacturer's warranty and be

assured that you do the proper upkeep and maintenance. With a used boat, you run the risk of issues caused by the previous owner that could be costly down the road.

### OTHER EXPENSES

In addition to the purchase price of a pontoon, plan on spending between \$2,000-\$5,000 extra annually for repairs, storage, and other expenses, like:

- **Insurance** – while boat insurance is not always a mandated requirement or a state law, insuring your boat is highly, highly recommended to cover yourself in case of damages to your boat or injuries to others when out on the water.

The annual cost for boat insurance ranges between \$150-\$400 annually, but this can be higher depending on the level of coverage and the condition and year of your pontoon. Check out our partner at Boat Charter Insurance for their great rates and offerings for insurance.

- **Taxes, Title, and registration fees** – these expenses will vary from state to state and country to country. You'll want to see what you'll need by visiting your state's DNR website and seeing the fees for your pontoon registration.

- **Marina and docking fees** – if you don't own waterfront property with a dock where you plan to store your boat and don't want to deal with the hassle of trailering your boat every time you use it, you'll need to explore options for docking at a marina. Marinas can cost anywhere from \$2,000 to over \$15,000 annually for a docking slip, depending on the local area's demand and exclusivity.

- **Maintenance** – despite the efforts of even the most cautious boat owners who take great care of their vessels, pontoons that are frequently used, hauled around, and enjoyed will experience wear and tear. Annual maintenance costs for a pontoon owner will vary depending on

many factors, but you should expect to spend a minimum of \$1,000 annually on basic maintenance.

- **Fuel** – the frequency with that you use your pontoon will determine your fuel costs, but overall the cost to fill up a pontoon with gas ranges between \$150-300 depending on the size of the pontoon's tank. This cost can fluctuate since local fuel dock prices can change without warning, so it's best to set aside some extra cash in your pontoon fuel account.

- **Accessories** – other costs that you'll need to expect when you first buy a pontoon are the essential accessories like a trailer and safety gear for onboard like a first aid kit, lifejackets, other floatation devices, an anchor, ropes and lines, and a boat cooler for keeping your drinks and food cold when out on the water. While these are all much smaller expenses than the cost of the boat, they do add up to a significant price when you're first starting out.

### MAINTENANCE TIPS

Now that you've got your beautiful pontoon, you've got to take proper care of the thing. Routine maintenance and upkeep will help prevent mechanical issues and ensure you get as much quality time on the water with your pontoon during every boating season.

### CHECKLIST:

- Always cover your pontoon when it's not in use. Whether that involves a shaded dock slip or pulling a fitted cover over the boat, keeping your pontoon's interior covered when it is docked is crucial to prevent fading of the interior cushions. You'll also want to keep rain and bugs out, so a fitted cover is ideal, even if your dock slip is covered.

- Winterize your pontoon properly

and, ideally, store it indoors. Climate-controlled storage will help preserve your pontoon and prevent damage caused by freezing and expanding liquids.

- If you're boating in salt water, be sure to flush the engine after every time you're on the water. Prevent corrosion and salt build-up by periodically cleaning the bottom of your pontoon.

- Regularly check for any leaks or dents in your boat. Finding a leak early can help prevent costly damage. Thankfully, pontoons are less susceptible to damage on the hull due to their ability to cruise in shallow waters, but you can still end up bumping into obstacles in the water, which would be cause for concern.

For information on the maintenance of your boat, check out our guides on how to fix a drowned outboard engine, how to avoid stainless steel corrosion, and guide to care for boat surfaces.

### TEST DRIVE

Is buying a pontoon worth it? It depends on the individual user, obviously, but doing your research, calculating all the expenses, and comparing them to your budget is essential. And we think the best way to research pontoons is to experience them firsthand — by renting them out and testing different makes and models.

Just like test driving a car, you'll want to test drive a boat before you buy it, and it's even better when you can make a whole boat day out of your test drive!

On Getmyboat, you can find pontoon rentals that you can drive yourself to get the full feel and experience. The perfect pontoon for you will depend on the type of boating experience you desire.

For more information, visit [getmyboat.com](http://getmyboat.com).

*Valerie Streif, marketing manager for Getmyboat, is a communications specialist for the world of boating.*

## BY THE NUMBERS

Waterfront Homes for Sale in the Whitewater Lake Area

N7317 Chapel Dr. #7 .....	\$329,000
N7431 Ridge Rd. ....	\$920,000
Lt1 Cliffs View Ln. ....	\$950,000
N7416 Ridge Rd. ....	\$1,495,000
N7294 Krahn Dr. ....	\$2,550,000

DATA PROVIDED BY LAKEHOMEINFO.COM

## THE GOING RATE

HOMES RECENTLY SOLD ON WHITEWATER LAKE

N7352 Krahn Dr. ....	\$725,000
N7569 Ridge Rd. ....	\$820,000
N7767 Ridge Rd. ....	\$1,343,500
N7409 Ridge Rd. ....	\$1,395,000

DATA PROVIDED BY LAKEHOMEINFO.COM

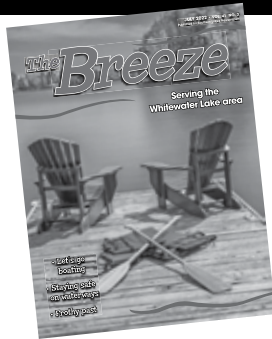


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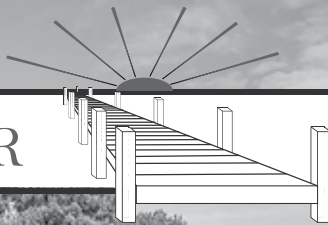
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**2000 Supra Legacy**, very clean, garage/lift kept, bow rider, 275 hours, \$11,500 best. (708) 288-4777

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**14 foot aluminum fishing boat**, trolling motor, oars, battery. \$395. (262) 742-3665.

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**Shore station lift parts**, cheap. Lauderdale Lakes. (262) 742-3665

#### Ski Equipment

**Ski trainer**, easy to get up on, builds confidence. \$75. Text (262) 949-6997  
**Slalom ski**, 67", great shape, \$125.00. (708) 288-4777  
**Skis**, doubles, nice condition. \$75.00. Text (262) 949-6997



458042



The AllyUkes – a ukulele band comprised of numerous members from throughout the area are shown performing during the Music on Main concert series in 2023. The group is set to take the stage on Aug. 9. The free community concerts, which began in 2019, take place at Main and 112 N. Third streets in Palmyra twice a month during the summer.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF TARA LEROY *The Breeze*

# The magic of music continues

## MUSIC ON MAIN SUMMER CONCERT SERIES IN PALMYRA A HIT

All from the greater community are invited to lose themselves in the magic of music at free community concerts held in the neighboring Village of Palmyra.

“Bring a chair, sing along, tap in time, and enjoy another season of Music on Main,” event organizer Donna Tronca said.

Since 2019 Music on Main – a family friendly street music project – has featured free outdoor music designed to appeal to a variety of age groups. Talented local musicians entertain on select Friday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at Main and 112 N. Third streets in the village.

The 2024 series has already featured Kettle Moraine Blues, Two Old Men and Friends, and Paul and Nathan Williams but there are three more events on the calendar.

Juli Miller is set to perform on July 26.

The final two concerts for this summer will feature The AllyUkes on Aug. 9,

followed by Amanecer Y Más on Aug. 23.

“Music on Main offers listeners the rare opportunity to enjoy free live music in a casual outdoor setting,” Tronca said.

“Music can lift your heart, warm the soul, and just make you feel good. Music is magic,” she added.

## INVASIVE SPECIES • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

a graphic showing where plants, tiny animals and potentially contaminated water can hide on a boat and trailer.

“It only takes a minute to remove plants, animals, mud or debris from boats, trailers and equipment and to drain all water from bilges, livewells, and bait buckets,” said Erin McFarlane, the Statewide Clean Boats Clean Waters Educator with Extension Lakes.

“These simple steps help keep invasive species from hitching a ride from one lake or river to another,” McFarlane added.

Every boater and angler has a role to play in protecting Wisconsin’s lakes and rivers. All who take to the water are reminded to follow these prevention steps, required by Wisconsin law, to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species in local waters:

- Inspect boats, trailers, and equipment before and after use.
- Remove all mud and attached aquatic plants and animals.
- Drain all water from boats, vehicles, and equipment, including livewells and fish buckets.
- Never move plants or live fish away from a waterbody.
- Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash.
- Buy minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer.

Additionally, only use leftover minnows when fishing with them on the same body of water. They can be used on other waters only if no lake or river water or other fish have been added to their container.

For more information about invasive species, visit [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov).

## MEETINGS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

“Soon, we will be moving all of those old videos to YouTube,” Magestro said. “Hopefully, slowly, but surely, we’ll be getting that done by the end of summer.”

In a memo to the council on the issue, Magestro said an individual transfer of a particular meeting can take up to 90 minutes to complete.

The labor-intensive effort drew praise from council member Brian Schanen.

## THE VINERY • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

there are items needed that aren’t listed, contact staff because they have much more in stock than what’s listed and, in the event they don’t have something that’s needed, they will special order at no extra charge to the customer.

The Vinery Stained Glass Studio is at

“I’ve been a part of some video migrations in my line of work,” Schanen said. “They’re a boatload.”

Viewers watching a live proceeding of a council or committee meeting on YouTube will not be able to comment. However, at-home viewers and listeners can still provide feedback from the other options the city has available, including calling in to a dedicated number and through Zoom.

218 Elkhorn Rd., Whitewater. Store hours: Tuesday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; closed Sundays and Mondays.

For more information, visit [vineryglassllc.com](http://vineryglassllc.com) or call 262-458-2209.

## Showtime for water skiing teams

Each of the waterski teams offer free shows throughout the summer. While the shows are free, donations are accepted and appreciated as they help defray some of the costs of putting on the show.

Guests are encouraged to bring a chair or blanket although some of the sites have seats and offer food, snacks and drinks.

Here is a breakdown of the teams' remaining shows for 2024:

### Southern Wakes

Southern Wakes United performs at a variety of venues.

- Elkhorn Lake – Parking is available at Precision Plus, 840 Koopman Lane, Elkhorn. Shows at Elkhorn Lake are at 6 p.m., Saturdays and noon, Sundays. The team will be at Elkhorn Lake Sunday, Aug. 18 (the annual Alumni Show); and Saturday, Aug. 31.

- Lauderdale Lakes – held on the lake at Lauderdale Landing, Elkhorn. All shows are on Fridays and start at 6 p.m. Shows are set to be presented at Lauderdale July 5; Aug. 9; and Aug. 23.

- Whitewater Lake – Two shows will be held at N7660 State Park Dr. on Whitewater Lake this summer and are best viewed by boat as it will be difficult to see from the shore. The shows will be Saturday, July 27 and Friday, Aug. 16.

For more information, visit [southernwakesunited.com](http://southernwakesunited.com).

### Twin Lakes Aquanuts

The Twin Lakes Aquanuts team performs at Lance Park, 55 Lance Dr., Twin Lakes, Wednesdays and Saturdays at 6 p.m. except when attending state or national competitions.

There is a seating bowl or bring a lawn chair or blankets. A snack shop on site opens one hour before each show. Indoor restrooms are available, and parking is free.

For more information, visit [www.aquanutwatershow.com](http://www.aquanutwatershow.com)

### Wonder Lake

The Wonder Lake Water Ski shows at Wonder Center Beach, a private beach owned by the Wonder Lake Property Owners Association. Located at Hancock and East Lake Shore drives, free shows are offered to the public on Fridays with remaining shows set for July 26 at 7 p.m.; Aug. 2 at 7 p.m.; Aug. 16 at 6:45 p.m.; Aug. 23 at 6:45 p.m.; Sept. 1 at 4 p.m.

The team will also perform at Venetian Fest in Lake Geneva on Aug. 18 at 6 p.m.

For more information, visit [www.wonderlakesskiteam.org](http://www.wonderlakesskiteam.org).

## SKIING • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Lakes Aqua Skiers and the Minneiska Water Ski Team.

Today they have approximately 50 members who come from a wide area including Elkhorn, Whitewater, Janesville and Twin Lakes in Wisconsin as well as Illinois. Members range in age from 7 to 56 and while not all are actual skiers, each plays an important role in helping the team perform.

Lohrmann and Michael Maas will serve as the show directors this year and have been hard at work for months working on the theme for this year's team. It's a 40th reunion costume party theme and will feature them bringing back the 1980s with a twist.

"Our team is so excited to be participating for the first time in Division II. We've worked hard all winter long on a theme that can be put on at the variety of different show courses we use. And, we have tried upping our skill set to be competitive with the bigger teams that are well known in the division," shared Leslie Gostowski, vice president of the Southern Wakes United Ski Team.

"We feel we will have been very successful if we are able to place third during our first year in this higher division," she added.

This year the team will be highlighting the younger skiers to encourage more participation from them while also giving them an opportunity to grow throughout the season.

"This year we have had a lot of younger members get involved in the development of this show. We love seeing the younger generation stepping up because they are the future of this sport," Gostowski said. "They have been working hard on creating a fun, inclusive theme that can be performed at our multiple, unconventional sites."

Southern Wakes is unique because they do not perform at one home venue as the other local teams do. Instead, they put on

shows at four different venues – Elkhorn Lake, Turtle Lake, Lauderdale Lakes and Whitewater Lake.

Each site has different days and times for shows and all performances are free. For remaining shows this summer, see the related schedule.

### Twin Lakes Aquanuts

The Aquanuts are a competitive waterski team who make their home in Twin Lakes and perform on Lake Mary. They are a Division I team, the highest rank of competition, and two years ago, in 2022, won both state and national titles.

Among the things the team is known for are its champion ballet line, four-tier pyramids and daring stunts

"In 2023 the team still had a good competition as they finished third in both the state and in national competitions," Gurda said. "They are looking forward to this year's competitions."

The team members fluctuate each year as some of the younger skiers mature into adulthood and take on full-time jobs, are getting ready – or move for college, or decide to take a break from skiing. But they often come back.

"The year 2022 was an important as many who had skied with the team in the past returned to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the team," Gurda said. "We hope this year will bring many of them back to competition."

In addition to state and national titles that year, individuals on the team also won awards including Kalley Koehler and Ethan Shuda who were named top female and male skiers.

The Aquanuts began in the early 1970s as a small volunteer group that enjoyed water skiing. While they began without sponsors or a home base, it did not take them long to find their way. They began by acquiring sponsors, including Dr. Pepper, and some of the local marine vendors donated equipment. By the

second year, Lance Park in Twin Lakes on Lake Mary became their permanent home and has remained so ever since.

The Aquanuts are composed of two teams – a junior team and a senior team – with members coming from a wide area in Wisconsin and Illinois. Some of the members' families have summer homes in the area while others travel to be part of the team.

The team works hard to present variety of unique and inventive shows. One of their early shows introduced clowns which continue to be a part of today's shows and have even been incorporated on their team logo. The ballet line, dance and ski routines and four-tier pyramids are among the features in their performances.

The team is once again performing free shows at Lance Park in Twin Lakes on Wednesday and Saturday evenings at 6 p.m. except during state and national Competitions.

### Wonder Lake

The Wonder Lake Water Ski Club was founded in 1955 by eight teenagers. But it was the building of its first jump in 1956 – which was 24 feet long and 4 feet high – that saw their membership increase to 40 as many skiers wanted to try out that jump.

They did not begin as competitive but a show team, putting on their first performance on Labor Day in 1959. In 1962, the team performed a show for Fiesta Days in McHenry. Today they continue to offer "shows for hire."

The Wonder Lake Water Ski Show Team will take their show on the road to perform at events as long as the water depth is safe. They have done shows in Mundelein and St. Charles in Illinois and at Venetian Festival on Geneva Lake. This year the team's performance at Venetian Festival will be Aug. 18 at 6 p.m.

By 1986 the team began to participate in competitions with



The ballet line brightens up the water in a performance of Peter Pan.

remarkable success. From 1996 to 2010, they were the National Show Ski Champions four times.

The team is in northern Illinois and while there are many ski teams across the border in Wisconsin, there are so few in Illinois that they do not have a state championship competition but rather a Regional Championship of several Midwest states. In 2023, Wonder Lake was awarded first place in that competition.

“Our team members are mostly local skiers who live here in Wonder Lake,” said Brea Imse, one of the team’s show skiers. “But we also welcome skiers from other areas. We have a Junior Club open to skiers 6 or older who know the basics of waterskiing, and a Senior Club which currently has members as high as in their 60s.”

Imse and fellow team member Arik Lebda represented the USA at the World Show Tour in 2018 where the team placed first.

Among the unique features of the Wonder Lake team is the prefab pyramid, which is created while still on the pier, three skiers high at which point the boat begins to

pull the pyramid to its feet with everyone remaining in place. They also present a prefab pyramid where two sections of skiers are gathered on the piers, the piers split apart and a pyramid section already on the water joins them, filling out the center.

“Last year our show theme was ‘Beauty and the Beast,’” Imse said earlier this summer. “This year we are working hard on a new theme, ‘Kids Rule 2024.’ It will start out as a Blues Brothers’ piece and then the kids will hijack the show and change what will come through. It will be a fun program.”

The team is proud of the many former team members who have gone on to become professional water skiers, appearing in places such as Sea World, and Cypress Gardens, and the Tommy Bartlett Water Ski Show. Additionally, members have performed not only in the United States but in several other countries including Australia, Germany, Malaysia and Japan.

The Wonder Lake Water Ski Show Team presents free shows to the public at Wonder Center Beach on most Fridays through Labor Day Weekend.



This trio flips high into the air without getting in each other’s space.

PHOTO COURTESY WONDER LAKE SKI TEAM *The Breeze*

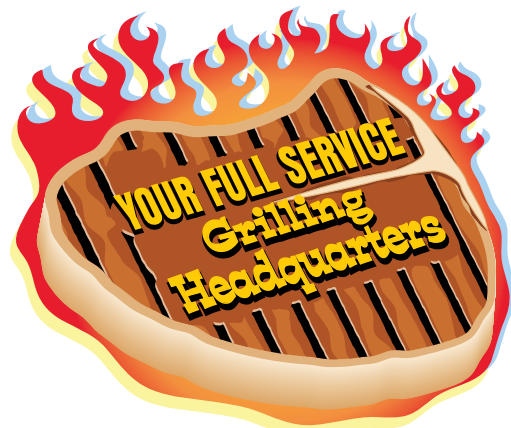


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