

To: James Creighton <jc@pleasurelake.org>
 From: Fallsburg Fishing & Boating Club
 From Email: jc@pleasurelake.org
 Subject: FF&BC Newsletter - Fireworks, Fishing, Town Issues and More - July 12, 2017
 Preheader: This weekend is going to be a big one: FIREWORKS, 30th Annual Kids' Fishing Contest and a Golf Outing too!

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Fallsburg Fishing & Boating Club

Newsletter - July 2017 Issue

July 12, 2017

Fireworks Display This Saturday - July 15th



This is going to be THE fireworks show to see ... Mick promises this will be the BEST show ever, and we can't wait! The annual Fireworks Display is this Saturday, July 15th (following the 30th Annual Kids' Fishing Contest) starting ~9pm.

This year our fireworks professionals have added more new features including some that will look great but are lower to the water. Mick asks that everyone (especially those who watch from boats and kayaks) stay near the shorelines and stay a safe distance from launch rafts at all times (no one should approach the rafts after dark).

**** While we all love the great job Mick and his professional team do with the show, it is important that ALL members (especially those who attend the show) properly thank Mick Meier*

FF&BC Golf Outing Date: THIS FRIDAY, July 14th

The FF&BC Annual Golf Outing is this Friday, July 14th at 10am. RSVPs have been light again this year, but we plan to move forward with the scramble format event at the Lochmor Golf Course. Please RSVP with a reply to this email or speak with Bill Voegelin or Jim Creighton if you are still

at Lot 21 for all his hard work. Unfortunately, donations have been coming in slowly, and he has only collected about half of the funds needed to cover this show. This is extremely expensive (several thousand dollars) and is funded solely via Mick's gift to the Club and YOUR donations (rather than through Club dues). Please enjoy the show, but be fair and be sure to contribute ... the shortfall of the actual cost of materials alone right now is about \$2,500! Let's be generous and show Mick how much we love the hard work and love he shows for our Pleasure Lake community.

The most typical donation is about \$100, but all donations are appreciated and we ask that you be generous but within your means to help defray the display costs.

THANKS EVERYONE!!!

FF&BC's 30th ANNUAL KIDS' FISHING CONTEST - 7/15 (this Saturday!)



Contest from 8am-12noon (Check-in: 7:45am at Ken Lang's Dock (Lot 19))

Trophies awarded for most fish of all species & also for biggest lunger.

Alumni of the contest (yes, adults included) for the prior 29 years are invited to participate in the alumni competition for the Biggest Bass category.

Rules:

[interested in joining us](#)

AMENDED HOUSE RULE A.S.

The Board of Directors has made a small change to House Rule A.S. after the treasurer received several inquiries about dues checks that had not yet been deposited. As you may recall, the House Rule set a due date for dues checks for August 15th, but stated that dues checks would not be deposited until after September 1st. The Board amended Rouse Rule AS to allow the treasurer to deposit

- Fish has to be minimum 6” to count
- Child must be accompanied by an adult
- Only one fishing pole for each child fishing allowed in the water
- Adults cannot fish unless they are competing as Alumni of the contest - only one Alumni category: Biggest Bass
- All Bass must be alive to count!

BBQ TO FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTEST

AT THE CLUBHOUSE

Donation: \$20.00 PER ADULT

CHILDREN UNDER 16 ARE FREE

PLEASE RSVP TO KEN LANG and pre-register kids who will be fishing by calling or texting him at (570) 236-7491 or reply with an email or on our Facebook group page. (Although the RSVP date was July 4th, Ken says it is not too late!)

A great anniversary year 2017 T-shirt has been designed and will go on sale at the BBQ: \$15 Each or 2 for \$25.

As always, to keep costs low, please remember to bring a covered dish, salad or dessert to share.

(VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED!)

Is someone from your cabin fishing in the 30th annual kids fishing contest? If so, please make sure you have given Ken Lang a quick head count: How many grown ups for the BBQ? How many kids fishing? How many alumni from your camp will participate? And even if you have no kids fishing in the contest, you are invited to come join us at the BBQ - only \$20 per adult. ***** PLEASE RSVP! *****

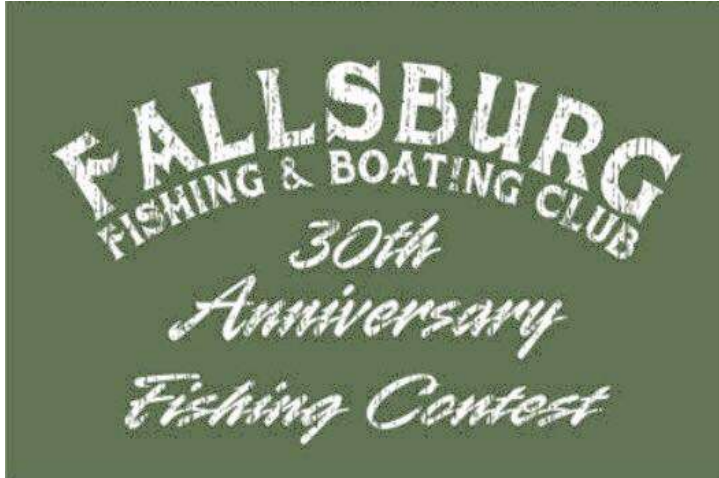
checks earlier when the member specifically requests that he not hold the dues check until September.

The amended rule (with added text underlined) reads: "AS. All membership dues must be postmarked by August 15th of that year. Checks will not be deposited until the first business day on or after September 1st unless the member requests earlier deposit. (Amended 7/11/2017)"

Just another reminder:

Amended: House Rule AO. All boats new to the lake (including guest boats which must bear the

Thanks to Ken Lang and all the team who make this event a huge success!!!



Fun Fishing Contest Fact:

Last year (at the 29th annual kids fishing contest), there were 39 kids who fished, 63 grown-ups attend the barbecue, the kids caught 134 fish for the fish fry and 54 pounds of bass were returned safely to the lake after being counted and weighed!



IMPORTANT TOWN MEETINGS -- *WE NEED YOU* -- Please Attend & Show Your Support!

The Town of Fallsburg's

name of the member in 3 inch letters) must first be approved by the Board of Directors. For a boat previously used on any other lake or waterway, the member will be required to provide to the Board of Directors proof of steam cleaning of the used boat, or certify that the boat has been checked, cleaned and dried/ disinfected in accordance with NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation regulation 6 NYCRR Part 576 Aquatic Invasive Species Spread Prevention; in addition, every boat/watercraft (as well as equipment trailer) from another lake or waterway as well as any Pleasure Lake boat that has been stored anywhere outside Club property must be cleaned and inspected at the clubhouse cleaning station



moratorium on residential projects expired at the end of June, and a public hearing on the Town's draft Comprehensive Plan was cancelled earlier this week as a result of major opposition to the draft Plan. A new meeting of the committee is scheduled for this Thursday, July 13th at 7pm in the South Fallsburg Senior Center at 12 Laurel Avenue (members who can attend are encouraged to do so though public participation may be limited). This meeting is to review the draft Comprehensive Plan and to discuss proposed changes. A more important Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, July 31st at 5:50pm at the Fallsburg High School - 115 Brickman Road, Fallsburg, NY 12733. We need to get as many people out to the Public Hearing as possible to show our support for the policies set forth in that Plan to help protect Pleasure Lake and the other lakes and streams in Fallsburg as well as to reduce the out-of-control development in our Town. We need to encourage them NOT to water down the protections in that Plan -- especially for Pleasure Lke and all the streams, rivers and lakes in our Town.

The Town Board's intention was to adopt revisions to the Comprehensive Plan and to make changes to the Zoning Ordinance in order to slow the depletion of the town's natural resources and control the density of residential projects. They sought to do this by reducing density in more rural areas, expanding the Town's Agricultural District (by decreasing allowable density to one house per acre) and permitting higher density in parts of town with adequate infrastructure.

The density issue has become contentious, with considerable push-back from some developers in the community even though Supervisor Steve Vegliante tried to involve all stakeholders in the process. Mr. Vegliante was quoted as saying that his "foremost concern is to adopt amendments that will allow continued, sustainable development and improvements to the quality of life here for years to come. We owe it to all our residents...to develop a plan and code that provides for both communities (Orthodox and non-Orthodox) to live and grow in harmony with clean water, safe sewers and manageable traffic."

We are happy that the Town was receptive to our suggested changes and additions to their Comprehensive Plan to help protect Pleasure Lake. The areas we are most interested in pushing forward

and the member must certify completion in the log prior to being launched into Pleasure Lake by members and/or third-parties in order to prevent the spread of any aquatic invasive species (AIS) in the Pleasure Lake environment.
(Amended 5/29/2016)

FOLLOW
US



are the ones that directly affect our water, views and neighborhoods surrounding us. In particular:

- We need to protect the Town's rivers, streams and lakes (not just limit our protections to the Neversink River).

[Many of the draft Plan language lists critical Issues and Opportunities listed in Section 2.1 (“Preservation of wildlife and nature”) and Section 2.2 (“Preservation of river, stream, and lake water resources and water quality and encourage responsible recreation use of these assets” and “Preserve expanses of open space for its many benefits, including visual beauty, passive recreation, hunting and fishing”), but some of the specific goals and recommendations in the draft Plan seemed to only be directed at Neversink River; the Town made some changes and expanded their focus to include the streams and lakes which feed the Neversink River (including the Sheldrake Stream which feeds Pleasure Lake, Morningside Lake and others).]

- The Plan was amended at our request to add a specific goal relating to natural resources (including Groundwater Resources and Surface Water Resources): *“Protect the quality of the Town's biological resources, surface waters and sources of public drinking water supply from contamination, pollutants and aquatic invasive species.”*
- We need to protect open space in the Town which serves as habitat for the bald eagle. Initially, the Plan only discussed Bald Eagle nesting along the Neversink River, and we let them know that this was not their exclusive nesting location in the Town. Since the Bald Eagle is a state-threatened and federally protected species that nests and winters along the Neversink River and Pleasure Lake, we recommended broader protections in those areas.

[We also let the committee know that the FF&BC and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has confirmed that a nesting pair of bald eagles lives and winters along the northwest shore of Pleasure Lake in a protected cove area (with 2 sets of eaglets born there last year and again this year).

The FF&BC maintains strict conservation efforts within the recommended buffer of 660 feet from the nesting area, and the DEC has recommended a secondary buffer of 1000 feet during breeding season from January 1st to

September 30th for their breeding activities.]

In order to make these protective efforts effective, we recommended and the Town's Comprehensive Plan Committee agreed not to increase density in that area surrounding the northwest part of Pleasure Lake. We need to make sure that the Town's conservation efforts maintain the zoning in that area at least at the REC-1 density or less, and should not be increased in density under any circumstances in order to protect the threatened wildlife (as well as for water quality and viewshed protection).

The draft Plan made that change and recommendation, but we need to ensure that the zoning amendment is not drawn erroneously or broadly. We also recommended that the Town rename the proposed Neversink River Overlay and instead call it a "Critical Watershed Overlay Area"; rather than just map areas over the Neversink River, the Town could then add the areas surrounding the northwest section of Pleasure Lake (around the entire cove and inlet sections - if not all of the lake and the areas surrounding it) in that Overlay Area to protect it from neighboring developers etc.

- Similarly, we need to be careful not to allow the Town to unintentionally thwart the protection efforts in the Plan by making broad goal statements to rezone areas immediately outside the hamlets to allow higher density uses. Details are important. While it does not appear that the area surrounding the northwest shores of Pleasure Lake are meant to be covered by the downzoning recommendation talk, we need to be VERY careful that Town planners do not mistakenly over-apply the recommendation for greater density by erroneously allowing higher density in areas of greatest ecological, biological and environmental concern (such as around Pleasure Lake). As noted above, care should be taken not to allow the areas northwest of Pleasure Lake as well as anywhere surrounding lakes and streams that feed our lakes to be down-zoned allowing greater density and causing major impacts to our water quality.**
- We recommended that the Town focus efforts not just on Water Supply and Sewers, but also critical storm water or drainage systems so that our lakes, streams and rivers will be protected.**
- We also suggested that the Town encourage green infrastructure practices and at least some**

recognition of the importance of minimizing impacts of stormwater infrastructure upon receiving watercourses, particularly streams that feed the Neversink and Pleasure Lake. In particular, we know of some areas of the Town where improperly managed storm water pollute our streams and waterbodies on a regular basis with every heavy rainstorm. (We can share photographs of intense stream pollution running from the yard of Fallsburg Lumber to the drainage channel along the old railroad bed and directly into the Sheldrake Stream in South Fallsburg and then directly into Pleasure Lake - - this is just one example but should be corrected and prevented whenever possible).

While it appears that the Town is very supportive of our concerns and has actually included most of our recommended changes, we are very concerned that the draft Plan may be "watered down" to appease the crowds of developer friendly opposition groups who have been showing up to try to intimidate the planners and officials. We need to show our support and we need to encourage the Town to remain strong against the opposition and not cave in to political pressure. Please try to come out and support the work done by the Comprehensive Plan committee (including our own member, Steve Altman who is on the committee); your voice will be heard and your supportive presence will make a difference. The FF&BC Board of Directors as well as the Town Supervisor and Comprehensive Plan Committee would appreciate us having as many people as possible there to show our support of the Plan.

Our invasive Water Chestnut plant pulling event was a great success last Saturday (7/8/2017)



This week is NY's fourth annual Invasive Species Awareness Week, and we "celebrated" by gathering Saturday morning (7/8) in boats and kayaks around the waters near the clubhouse and inlet to remove these invasive pests. The teams worked down the lake "hand-pulling" the invasive Water Chestnut plant from the water before it has a chance to drop its nutlets within the next month. The good news is that there were fewer Water Chestnuts than last year, and the teams spent lots of time pulling trash out of the lake as well! The Water Chestnut is an invasive species that competes with native aquatic vegetation, and we have been able to control it for the last few years with lots of hard work and vigilance. Another Water Chestnut pulling event is scheduled for August 12th, and we hope we will have lots of members come out to help us (begins at 10am).

Invasive AIS Status

FALLSBURG FISHING



AND BOATING CLUB

We are happy to report that Pleasure Lake is looking good and that our surveys are showing little growth of the invasive Eurasian milfoil weed (following our treatment of Pleasure Lake last year with Sonar AS) and a reduced number of the Water Chestnut weed. Below is our most recent report from AIS Committee Chair Jerry Chiochio:

On July 6, 2017, I surveyed Pleasure Lake approximately one year after the Sonar AS treatment performed by Solitude Lake Management. I performed a rake toss [areas on

the North side, South side and an eastern area near] Mary Martin's Cabin. What I pulled up was not Eurasian Milfoil (EWM). It was Coontail which is a native plant. Submitted photos to Solitude Lake Management and it was confirmed to be coontail and not Eurasian Watermilfoil. Again, no trace of EWM and the lake look good. What I see is pond weed growing to the top surface north of the island which again is a native aquatic plant.

On July 8, 2017, a small team assembled near the clubhouse at 10:00 AM to search and remove Water Chestnuts. The team consist of Mick Meier, Jerry Chiochio, Betty Davis, Bill Voegelin and James Harr. The area covered included from the bridge on Route 42 through the entire inlet, in and around Mary Martin cabin to the east shore of [the north area of the lake]. We also carefully searched each Lily pad pods as we found that the water chestnuts were growing in between the Lily pads. We also found water chestnuts at the shore line. The amount of water chestnuts pulled was smaller than last year. We estimated that the plants pulled would fill one 5 gallon bucket. It seems we have a good control over this AIS.

The Club will continue to monitor throughout the summer. Any questions on AIS issues, please feel free to contact Jerry Chiochio. Once again, a big thank you goes out to Jerry for all his hard work, as well as to Mick, Bill, James and Betty for their outstanding work in pulling out water chestnuts and trash. The good news is that there were less chestnuts than last year! Thank you for your continuous support in this fight against AIS!

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