

INSIDE
Teacher of the Month

VOTE
by **JULY 18**
See Page 5 for details

40 years

By Brenda Erdahl

Over the past four decades, MCP Collision & Glass has built a reputation for providing high quality collision repair in an honest, ethical, and efficient manner.

The MCP family works hard daily to maintain that reputation by devoting to every repair and every customer the care and precision they deserve. In the end the finished product is something everyone can be proud of.

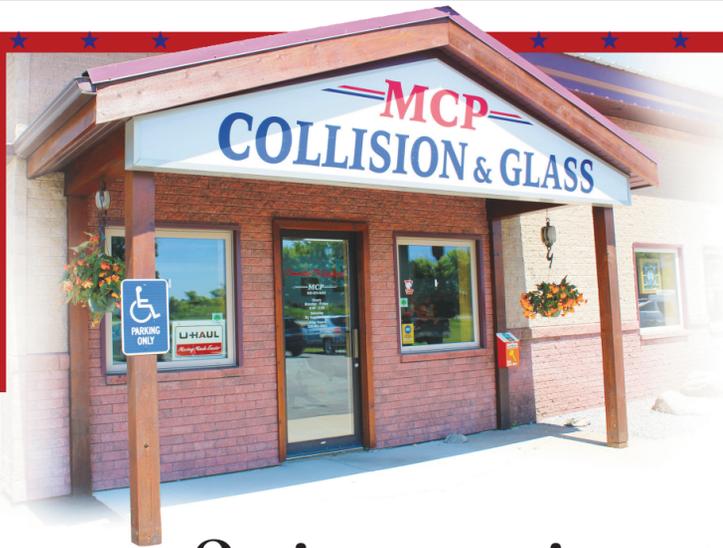
"It's not done by magic. It's a choice we make to be the best we can be," Owner Mike Zieska said. "We don't work on commission. We do not take shortcuts. We have the best facilities, the best-trained technicians, the best equipment and use the best paint, but that is not why we are the best. It's because we care and because we choose to do the repair right."

Qualified, caring staff

Mike and Vicki Zieska and daughter Hannah, Certified technicians Calvin Dillon, Jeff Geisinger, Jeff Fautsch and Gary Geisinger bring decades of experience and knowledge to MCP.

Besides Mike and Vicki who opened the business in 1981, Calvin has been with MCP the longest – 38 years. Jeff Geisinger offers 30 years of experience, Jeff Fautsch has been a part of the MCP team for 23 and Hannah has worked in the business for 15 years.

The newest member, and future of MCP is Isaac Barbre who is in his first year. We are I-CAR trained, ASE certified and have



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Jeff Geisinger and Hannah Zieska inspect and finalize an insurance estimate.

their paint, welding and estimating certifications. Keeping the production area organized and running smoothly at MCP is Gary Geisinger.

"He is great," said Mike. "We're like a family, all part of the same team, a great team that truly cares about our customers."

"Every day, every week, every year we look for new ways to become more efficient and do a better quality job for our customers and their repairs," added Jeff Geisinger.

Newest and best technology

In most cases, a vehicle is your

second-largest asset next to your home, that's why the MCP team will never use anything less than the latest and best technology and tools to keep their customers coming back.

- MCP's Tech scanning diagnostics tool allows technicians to scan a damaged vehicle and enable it to be repaired to exact factory specifications. The tool is used for pre-repair scanning and post-scanning so that if there are any imperfections, recalibrations can be made.

- MCP's Pro Spot (spot resistant) welder is a smart welder that welds vehicle body parts to exact speci-

Business Buzz

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fications, not allowing rust or corrosion. Technicians also use an aluminum and high strength steel welder. Both are custom welders built for collision repair.

- MCP's Aluminum Clean Room is a top-of-the-line facility used for repairing aluminum vehicles.

"These, and other upgrades, helps the entire process," Mike said. "We want to do the best we can do. Our customers are our friends and neighbors, and we want to treat our them well."

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LEFT: Jeff Fautsch is in front of MCP's aluminum clean room.

RIGHT: Calvin Dillon displays an aluminum and high strength steel welder.



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July Fishing Forecast



Summer patterns develop as fish head deep

Brenda Erdahl
Staff Writer

Warm surface temperatures have chased larger fish into deeper water and an overgrowth of weeds has made fishing harder, according to local anglers. Shane at H&H in Maple Lake said he's seeing water conditions that you don't usually see until July or August. Kurt Segner at Little Jim's Sports Shop in Annandale suggests using deep running crank baits that go down 20-feet or so to the cooler water, and that's where anglers will see some action. The larger sunfish are in the deeper waters as well, he said and anglers have had luck using heavy sinkers to target those. Shawn at Lake Region Coop in Buffalo said the cool front that swept through last weekend has been a help to fishermen and most area lakes are producing sun fish in 16 to 15 feet of water along the weed lines. Maple Lake continues to yield crappies and Sylvia is giving up plenty of small bass. Night crawlers and leaches are the preferred bait.

Baitshop Chatter

Buffalo Lake: Anglers are catching walleye in the early morning and late evening along the weed edge in 16 feet of water. They are using lindy rigs and the hot spot is by the fountain in front of the courthouse.

Indian Lake: Sunfish are biting in 10 to 15 feet of water.

Maple Lake: Crappies continue to bite on Little Maple in 15 feet of water, and anglers have had luck catching smaller northern pike on big and middle Maple. Anglers are also doing well catching sunnies and bass. The bait of choice are night crawlers and leaches.

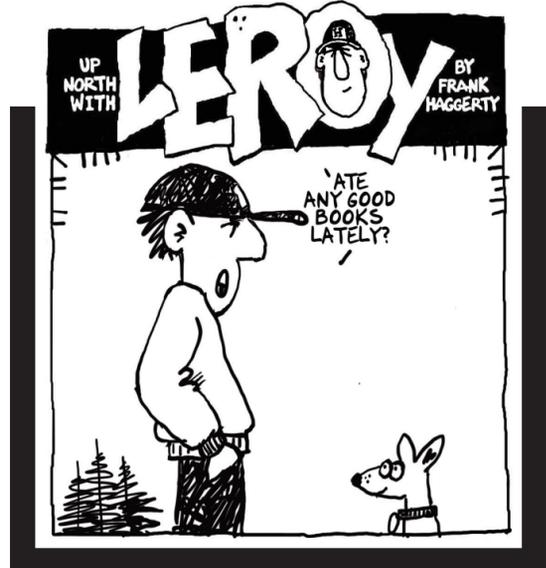
Lake Marie: Sunfish are biting in 10 to 15 feet of water.

Lake Sylvia: Small bass are biting on drop shot rigs in 10 feet of water. Sun fish are biting in 10 to 15 feet of water. Anglers are having luck catching bass and pike along the weed line in 10 to 15 feet of water.

Clearwater: Anglers have been catching some walleye in 15 feet of water on jigs and leaches. Sunfish have been biting in 10 to 15 feet of water. Bass and pike have been caught along the weed line in 10 to 15 feet of water.

Lake John: Sunfish are biting in 10 to 15 feet of water.

Cedar Lake: Walleye are biting in 15 feet of water on jigs and leaches.



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Lakes are losing oxygen rapidly according to U of M research

University of Minnesota

Oxygen levels in the world's temperate freshwater lakes are declining at rates faster than in the oceans, according to new research from the University of Minnesota and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. It's a trend researchers found is largely driven by climate change and land use, threatening freshwater biodiversity

and the quality of drinking water.

In research published this spring in *Nature*, the research team discovered that:

- Oxygen levels in lakes across the temperate zone (i.e., the area between the tropics and polar regions) have declined 5.5 percent in surface waters, and

18.6 percent in deep waters since 1980;

- In a large number of nutrient-polluted lakes (e.g., lakes with excess phosphorus), the falling oxygen levels are indicative of rising water temperatures and harmful algal blooms; and

- Lakes are releasing increased amounts of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas, into the atmosphere as a result of methane-producing bacteria thriving in oxygen-poor lakes.

"Previous research has documented global declines in oxygen of oceans, or focused on individual lakes, but this project is the first to document dramatic loss of oxygen in the deep waters of lakes around the world," says co-author Gretchen Hansen, as-



Lake Itasca, Minnesota

(Photo by Lesley Knoll)

lakes may ultimately cascade to people by threatening economic activity and human health."

Stephen F. Jane with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) says changes are concerning both for their potential impact on freshwater ecosystems and for what they suggest about environmental change in general. Kevin Rose, one of the study's co-authors and professor at RPI, agreed the trend is concerning.

"The fact that we're seeing increasing dissolved oxygen in those types of lakes is potentially an indicator of widespread increases in algal blooms, some of which produce toxins and are harmful. Nothing else we're aware of can explain this pattern," Rose said.

"Minnesota has been a leader in identifying the importance of cold water, oxygenated habitat in lakes and working to restore and protect the watersheds of lakes to counteract these concerning trends," said Hansen.

Reducing nutrient loading to lakes is possible by protecting forested watersheds and using best management practices on agricultural lands to reduce run-off.

"We, along with our colleagues across Minnesota, are doing a lot to identify the importance of cold water and oxygen in our lakes, but more work can always be done," said Knoll.

Knoll and Hansen were awarded a grant from the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership to examine in-depth the drivers of oxygen loss in Minnesota lakes.

Researcher assistant professor of fisheries ecology at the U of M's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

Researchers analyzed more than 45,000 dissolved oxygen and temperature profiles collected from 1941 to 2017 from nearly 400 lakes around the globe, including 84 lakes from

Minnesota, including dozens of Metro area lakes, as well as Leech Lake southeast of Bemidji and Lake Itasca in southeastern Clearwater County.

Loss of oxygen in deep waters of lakes has a number of implications for biodiversity and ecosystem function, including: a loss of habitat for organisms that require cold, oxygenated water (including cold water fish such as cisco, whitefish, and lake trout), the global greenhouse gas emissions, and nutrient biogeochemistry, which ultimately impacts human health.

"Minnesota is known for lakes with high water quality and these lakes contribute to local economies by supporting popular activities like fishing," said Lesley Knoll, a freshwater ecologist and associate director at the University of Minnesota's Itasca Biological Station and Laboratories. "We expect to see that with reductions in deep water oxygen, cold water fish habitat will be lost. Low oxygen environments can also alter nutrient cycles in ways that reduce water quality. Our research highlights how long-term changes in oxygen in

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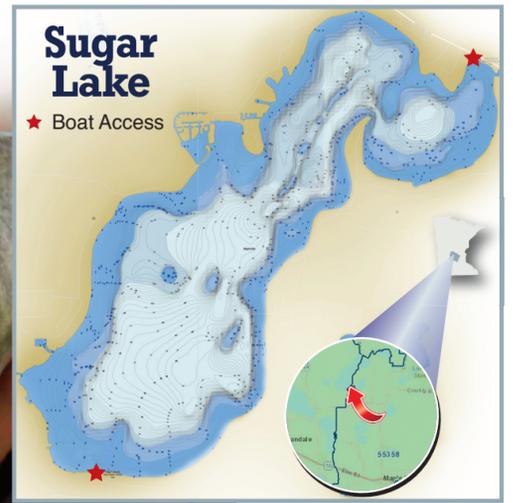
LAKE OF THE MONTH

By Joe Stewig
Area Fisheries Manager

Sugar Lake is a 1,015-acre lake located northeast of the City of Annandale in Wright County. The lake has two public accesses one on the south end (off of Hoyt Ave) and one on the north end (off of CR 7). The lake is very popular and like many lakes in the area offers many fishing opportunities. Two species that Sugar Lake offers to anglers that the rest of the lakes in the area don't are Muskellunge and Tullibee (Cisco). Sugar Lake is primarily managed for Muskellunge and Walleye with fingerlings of each species being stocked annually (180 Muskie and 5,000 - 7,000 Walleye).

The most recent lake survey conducted in 2016 found average numbers of Walleye with a respectable average size. Walleye caught ranged in length from 10 to 28 inches and averaged 17.1 inches and two (2) pounds. The largest Walleye ever caught in our nets was 31 inches and weighed just under 12 pounds. Walleye growth is above average for the area, taking three (3) years to reach 15 inches.

Northern Pike are abundant and small (average size 18.7 inches and 1 3/4 pounds). Sugar Lake has a special 24 to 36 inch protected slot on Northern Pike and so anglers have to release all pike



between those sizes. While anglers will encounter numerous pike under 24 inches, they also have a chance to catch larger fish as pike up to 40 inches have been caught in recent surveys. Northern Pike growth is average for the area, taking six (6) years to reach 25 inches.

Muskies were first introduced into Sugar Lake in 1967 and since that time three different strains have been stocked into the lake (Shoepack (1967 - 1979); Wisconsin (1983 - 1988); and Leech Lake (1989 - present)). Our management goal for the Sugar Lake Muskie population is 0.2 - 0.4 adults (> 30 inches) per acre. Muskie assessments are conducted every 5-years; however due to COVID19, this year's Muskie assessment was pushed off until 2022. Our last assessment conducted in 2016 estimated there to be between 100 and 250

muskies greater than 30 inches in this lake. Muskies sampled ranged in length from 34 - 52 1/2 inches with an average length of just under 45 inches. One female, while not the longest (51 inches) weighed 42 lbs!!! The population continues to grow as 76% of the Muskies sampled were 42 inches or longer with 11% 50 inches or longer!!! Muskies in Sugar Lake typically reach 40 inches by age 8 and 50 inches by age 12.

Largemouth Bass are abundant and tend to be small in Sugar Lake. Bass numbers in 2016 were four (4) times higher than the average catch for lakes in the Sauk Rapids Area. Bass sampled ranged in length from 3 - 17 inches with an average length and weight of 11 inches and 3/4 pounds. Only 30% of the bass sampled were longer than 12 inches and 2% were longer than 15 inches. If

you are looking for some fun bass fishing as far as numbers go then Sugar Lake is the place to be. There are many fish available to harvest if anglers are so inclined.

Crappies are the other main attraction to Sugar Lake and have been managed with a five (5) fish bag limit since 2007. Similar to Clearwater, Black Crappie abundance appears to be low based on summer surveys; however targeted sampling conducted in the spring of 2016 showed that the crappie population was in good shape. During the spring survey, we sampled 1,789 crappies that ranged from 4 - 15 inches with an average length of 9 1/2 inches. Sixty-one percent of the crappies sampled were longer than 10 inches and 9% were longer than 12 inches. Crappie growth is average for the area taking four (4) years to reach eight (8) inches and six (6) years to reach 10 inches.

Bluegill abundance is average for the area with a respectable average size. Bluegill sampled in 2016 ranged in length from

2 - 8 1/2 inches with an average length of 5 3/4 inches. Only 52% of the Bluegill caught were six (6) inches or longer and 1% were eight (8) inches or longer. Bluegill growth in Sugar Lake is average, taking five (5) years to reach seven (7) inches.

Currently, there are special regulations in place for crappie (five (5) fish bag limit) and Northern Pike (24 - 36 inch protected slot; one (1) over 36 inches allowed in a bag limit of three (3)). A summer survey is scheduled this summer (2021) and a Muskie assessment is scheduled for spring 2022.

Finally, please remember that the lake is infested with Eurasian milfoil and zebra mussels so care should be taken not to spread these invasive species. Practicing selective harvest will continue to ensure healthy fish populations for future enjoyment. If anglers choose to harvest a meal of fish, it is suggested they harvest smaller Northern Pike (<24 inches) due to their high abundance.

Feel free to send questions or comments to joe.stewig@state.mn.us or leave a voicemail at 320-223-7867.

Relax in a hammock this summer

Staff Writer

Mark your calendars national Hammock Day is July 22nd, those who want to go that extra relaxing mile should consider adding a hammock or swinging chair to their outdoor oasis. Hammocks offer instant gratification after tackling some weekend chores at the cabin and also for that mid-day nap after a morning of bobbing up and down in the boat on your favorite water. Hammocks are great investments for your mind body and soul. Take them on camping trips, or a quick nature hike and they simply are the perfect way to kickback and relax and listen to all the distant sounds nature offers.



Indoors or outdoors, create a retreat anywhere. A hanging chair can be hung in the corner of a bedroom, garage, or patio, providing the perfect spot to curl up with a good book or listen to the sounds of Lake Country.

Nap comfortably outdoors

Who needs an excuse to catch up on missing sleep? If the time presents itself, the sun and the fresh air can induce a deep sense of relaxation. Lying on a hammock or floating in a hanging chair provides that additional soothing rocking motion that can make a cat nap even more enticing.

Super stargazing retreat

Hammocks and swinging chairs can make it easier and more comfortable to stargaze at night. With a double hammock or chair, bring a romantic partner along to snuggle and watch the cosmos. Or teach children about the constellations in the night sky.

Blend in with nature

Lying on the ground disturbs the lawn and other outdoor components. Being suspended several inches above the ground in a chair or a hammock can help a person blend in with the natural environment. Birds, small animals and insects may not even know you're there, and that can make them easier to observe.

Everyone can appreciate the opportunity to sit back and relax. Hammocks and swinging chairs can help a person feel lighter than air and recharge in the warm summer air.

Simple nylon hammocks can be found at local hardware stores and offer a quick simple way to rock yourself into a deep relaxing meditation.

Throw a hammock in your car or truck for a quick portable lounge spot to kick back and relax at your leisure whenever you need it this summer. Experiment with ratchet straps, wires and hooks to find the perfect quick setup that allows the perfect swing. Mobile set-ups may be the best way to find a quiet place to tune out the world and listen to the sounds of nature and drift off.

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Talking tick season with U of M

Contributed Report

Along with summer comes the tick season in Minnesota. Many ticks can carry bacteria, viruses and parasites that can harm humans, including Lyme disease and Anaplasmosis. According to the Minnesota Department of Health, in 2018, there were 950 confirmed Lyme disease cases and 496 confirmed or probable cases of anaplasmosis in Minnesota.

Jon Oliver with the University of Minnesota School of Public Health answers questions about the outlook for this year's tick season in Minnesota, types of ticks and where they are most prevalent, and what people should do to avoid ticks and if they find one on themselves.

Q: Will there be a lot of ticks this year?

Prof. Oliver: 2021 is shaping up to be a bad year for ticks

but this may change due to ongoing dry weather. A lot of adult deer ticks were active early in the spring and this may correspond to high levels of activity among the very small immature ticks. On the other hand, dry weather and drought conditions will limit tick activity and reduce population numbers, especially for deer ticks. Parts of the state having a dry season may see fewer ticks later on this year.

Q: What types of ticks are most common in Minnesota?

Prof. Oliver: Deer ticks (*Ixodes scapularis*) and American dog ticks ("wood ticks"; *Dermacentor variabilis*) are common in Minnesota and both commonly bite people and pets. Although both species can potentially transmit diseases, deer ticks are more concerning because they are often infected with the bacteria that cause Lyme disease.

Q: Where are ticks most prevalent?

Prof. Oliver: Deer ticks require a refuge with a high humidity level, such as the forest leaf layer, so they are most often found in forested areas. Deer ticks are spreading and becoming more common. They are now found in every forested county in the state. Even in prairie areas, deer carry deer ticks to patches of forested habitat, so people should be vigilant for ticks after visiting any forested area in Minnesota. Adult deer ticks are active in the spring (April through June) and the fall (September through November) when temperatures are above freezing and there is no snow. Immature nymphs are considered more of a disease risk because they are smaller and harder to notice, so they often remain attached and feed for longer. They are mostly active in May through July in Minnesota.

Q: What can people do to avoid getting ticks on themselves and what should someone do if they find one?

Prof. Oliver: Tick-borne diseases are more easily prevented than cured. Insect repellents that contain DEET are also effective at repelling ticks. If you spend a lot of time in tick habitats, it may be worth treating a suit of clothes with permethrin, a repellent/insecticide that works on ticks. The bacteria that cause Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases usually take hours to enter your body after a tick attaches to feed. Daily tick checks will greatly reduce your chance of getting Lyme disease even if you are bitten.

If you find a tick biting you, use tweezers to grab the tick by its mouthparts where they enter your skin. Pull the tick straight off. Avoid crushing its body. After a tick bite, be mindful of



your body's health. If you develop a rash or flu-like symptoms, visit your doctor and tell him or her about the tick bite.

Q: What are you doing to advance research on ticks?

Prof. Oliver: With the goal of enhancing human health and reducing human exposure to tick-borne diseases, my research focuses on the interactions of ticks and the bacteria they carry as well as the distribution of ticks on the landscape of the Upper Midwest. New pathogens are discovered rela-

tively often in Minnesota's deer ticks and our lab is working to find out how and where new diseases arise. Ticks also have

a varied and diverse microbiome that includes both symbiotic bacteria that help the ticks and pathogens that cause disease. How the pathogens and symbionts interact, as well as how these bacteria affect ticks' ability to survive and spread, are open questions that we are working to answer. In the future, scientists may be able to manipulate ticks to limit their spread to new places or their ability to carry and transmit pathogens, such as the bacteria that cause Lyme disease.

Jon Oliver is an assistant professor in the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. His areas of expertise include vector-borne diseases, infectious diseases, ticks, mosquitoes and Lyme disease.

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Free service for Wright County farmers and homeowners

By Adam Austing
University of MN Extension educators

This summer has featured mostly dry weather for most of Wright County. That brings about challenges both for farmers managing recently planted crops and for homeowners working to maintain trees, lawn, and gardens. Wright County residents can contact the University of MN Extension office in Buffalo to get information, opinions, and possible solutions for issues in fields and yards. Contact Adam Austing at 320-249-5929 (call or text) or email austing@umn.edu.



Dry weather brings challenges for farmers and homeowners. Reach out to the local extension office in Buffalo for advice on fields and yards this summer.

For farmers, these dry conditions may lead to inconsistent corn and soybean stands, especially on hilltops or lighter soils. Pre-emerge herbicides may struggle to activate without proper moisture available, which can lead to poor control of early season weeds like giant ragweed. For livestock farmers, pasture conditions may quickly become an issue if the dry pattern continues. And for fruit and vegetable farmers, certain pests like spider mites thrive in dry conditions.

For homeowners, drought can cause its fair share of challenges as well. Mowing grass at three inches or higher will help conserve water, and watering lawn in the morning or evening will be more efficient as well. Also, make sure to keep an eye on those trees. Last year, some of the most common tree and shrub issues included bur oak blight and oak wilt, Lilac Pseudocercospora leaf spot, and maple trees struggling from a wide variety of environmental

stressors. Who knows what this year will bring!

Even if the rain shows up this week like we are hoping, every new growing season brings its own set of challenges for farmers and homeowners alike. University of MN Extension is here to help address issues as they arise throughout the summer of 2021. For more information on Extension, or to use our online tools to help diagnose issues, visit extension.umn.edu.

Did you know?

July 4th is a day when Americans celebrate their independence, but it's also a day to commemorate two men who played vital roles in procuring that independence. Both John Adams, the second President of the United States, and his successor Thomas Jefferson passed away on July 4, 1826. The two men had an interesting relationship that became increasingly complex as the nation they helped to found developed. According to History.com, Adams and Jefferson were confidantes in the 1780s. But as time wore on, each man developed a different view of what the United States government should be, creating a rift in their relationship that was only widened by the 1800 presidential election. The men ran against each other in that election, which is still considered one of the more contentious elections in American history. Jefferson ultimately claimed victory, a result so unnerving to Adams that he left Washington, D.C. prior to Jefferson's inauguration. The two men would ultimately reconcile, exchanging more than 150 letters before dying within hours of one another on Independence Day in 1826.

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TEACHER of the MONTH



HEATHER WIRTH

By Tom Westman
Staff Writer

Annandale area residents have voted and the Annandale July 2021 Teacher of the Month is Heather Wirth, Annandale Community Education's Bright Beginnings pre-school teacher.

According to the School District website, Bright Beginnings gives a child at least three years old, an extra start in school readiness skills focusing on building a positive self-image that develops confidence, independence, social skills and success for life-long learning.

A creative educator

"As we know, young learners are full of energy and Heather has the patience and sense of humor to handle any situation that comes her way," said Community Education Director Tiffany Grube. "She is a creative educator who can adapt her lessons to meet all children's needs."

"We are very fortunate to have her on our Early Childhood team."

About Heather

Wirth, a Leadership in Educational Excellence Award winner for the 2020-21 school year, grew up in St. Cloud, Mn. She attended St. Cloud Apollo High School where she was on the Dance line, Astronettes and track. She has a degree from St. Cloud State University in Child and Family Studies. Wirth holds a teaching license for ages birth to third grade.

Hired in 2012

Prior to teaching in Annandale, Wirth taught preschool in Maple Lake. In 2012, she started teaching as a part-time Early Childhood Family Education teacher in Annandale. She was interviewed by Traci Heidebrink, Christine Schultz and hired by Nicole Wilke.

In 2016, she took one year off to spend at home with her



infant child, Mila. Wirth was rehired as a full-time preschool teacher by Tiffany Grube in 2017, after being interviewed by AES Principal Jon Klippenes, Kari Dircks and Grube. **What makes a great preschool teacher?"**

"A great preschool teacher must be well organized, flexible, expressive, caring, kind and fun," Wirth said. "You need to understand child development and age appropriate standards. You need to create an environment that is friendly and safe for children to learn in."

"Most importantly, you need to get to know each and every child individually."

Wirth was asked what she liked most about teaching preschool.

"The thing I like most about teaching preschool is children's excitement and love of learning," Wirth said. "I love how they live in the moment and take in everything that surrounds them and I love their curiosity."

Challenges

"There are challenging moments in preschool, as sometimes there are behavior problems," Wirth said. "As a teacher, it's important to try different strategies to help every child feel safe and comfortable, but also to learn cop-

ing strategies to use when at school."

"It's all good"

Favorite quote to use with preschoolers is "It's all good" from the book Pete the Cat by Eric Litwin and James Dean. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fj_z6zGQVYM

Annandale is cool

When Wirth and her husband Justin moved to Annandale 14 years ago, they investigated the Annandale School District, and only heard positive things. "We love the vibe in our community, it's a strong one," Wirth said. "Annandale feels like family."

"The one thing we noticed most when we moved here is that everyone waves hi to each other and we thought that was so cool."

Family

Heather, her husband Justin; son Sal (14), son Emory (11) and daughter Mila live in rural Annandale. Wirth loves to garden, cook and shop. She also has a passion for running, a passion she shares with husband Justin and oldest son Sal.

"I have raced some ultra marathons in the past two years and I love the challenge that comes along with an ultra," Wirth said. "The farthest I've run is a 100k (61 miles) on the Superior Hiking Trail in Duluth, MN."



TRACI HEIDEBRINK

By Brenda Erdahl
Staff Writer

"Compassionate," "hard working," "fabulous" and "gives her all" are some of the words used to describe the July Teacher of the Month, Traci Heidebrink.

Heidebrink teaches preschool at Maple Lake Schools and was recently nominated for the honor through an online poll on the Maple Lake Messenger website.

"Traci has such a kind and caring personality," one nominator wrote. "She genuinely cares for her preschoolers and will do anything for them and help them succeed."

Another happy parent had this to say: "The children love Mrs. Traci. She turns learning into fun. My child would go to school every day to see Traci and Sharon."

Heidebrink is relatively new to Maple Lake Schools if not the area itself. Originally from Buffalo, she spent 18 years teaching preschool in Annandale before coming to Maple Lake four years ago.

"I loved Annandale too, but

there is something about the small-town atmosphere in Maple Lake. Everybody knows each other and everybody is so supportive," she said.

She said she loves how at lunch everyone from the paras to the custodians sit together like one big family. She said it takes everybody to teach these children and that's what happens at Maple Lake Schools.

Heidebrink's plan wasn't always to teach preschool. She attended St. Cloud State University for Applied Psychology intending to be a school counselor. Then she got married, had a baby, and started working at a childcare center. That's when she discovered how much she loved working with the smallest learners. She decided to go back to school for her birth through third grade teaching license at SCSU and the rest is history.

"There is a quote I really believe: 'We teach children things about life, and they teach us what life is.' I think that is so true. They teach us to be happy every day, to celebrate birthdays and live in the moment," she said.



"I just love when the little children say truly what is on their mind. It just makes me laugh. There are constant giggles and moments I just treasure."

"I also love that I get them first and I get to watch them throughout their school careers," she said.

Heidebrink has been married to Scott for 25 years. They have two grown daughters who are both pursuing degrees in education.

"They saw how much I love it and want to experience that too," she said.

GO ONLINE TO VOTE FOR THE AUGUST TEACHER OF THE MONTH!
The poll will open shortly for The August poll featuring Food Service & Janitorial workers. Head online and put in your vote before July 18!

VOTE 
by **JULY 18**

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LAKE Country Calendar July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	28	29	30	1	2	3
4 Annandale's Fourth of July Parade, 2 p.m., Coronation 5:30 p.m.	5 Annandale City Council 7 p.m.	6 South Haven City Council 7 p.m. Silver Creek Township Meeting 7 p.m. Corinna Township Meeting 7 p.m.	7 ML Chamber Meeting 12 p.m.	8 Annandale's 4th Celebrations begin ML Legion Riders meeting 7 p.m. Sons of the American Legion Meet 8 p.m. Lions Club Meeting at the V by HH 7 pm	9 Collector Car Appreciation Day July New Moon	10 Pioneer Park's Picker's Festival
11	12 ML School Board Meeting 7pm	13 Pioneer Park's Potluck Supper 6:30 p.m. Chatham Township Meeting 7 p.m. ML American Legion Meeting 7:30 p.m. ML City Council Meeting 7 p.m.	14 Ann. Chamber Meeting 11:30 a.m., TBD Hasty-Silver Crk Sport Club Meet 8 p.m.	15 Wright Saddle Club Meeting 7:30 p.m. ML Legion Auxiliary Meeting 7 p.m. National Give Something Away Day	16	17 National Strawberry Rhubarb Wine Day
18 Heart of the Lakes Triathlon	19	20 Albion Township Meeting 7 p.m. Corinna Township Meeting 7 p.m. Maple Lake Township Meeting 7 p.m.	21	22 National Hammock Day	23 Full Moon - Full Buck Moon	24
25 National Parent's Day	26	27 WC Snowmobile Meet at Legion 7:30 pm	28 National Waterpark Day	29 Knights of Clumbus Meeting at Church of St. Timothy 7 p.m.	30 National Father-in-Law Day	31 August Lure Published

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July Hold Many Celebrations....

The month of July holds many celebrations. July is considered the month of one of its biggest celebrations, Independence Day. The fine weather makes for an excellent time for vacations, travel and going to the beach. Relaxing and enjoying Lake Country is a must, mark your calendar and take some vacation time and take advantage of summer with a little fishing, attending reunions, family trips or a quiet day along on July 22 celebrating and National Hammock Day, enjoy the summer diversions of July.



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