



CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION

Summer 2019 Newsletter

CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION: OUR COMMUNITY

Summer 2019 has had a very sad start with the tragic deaths of two of our young people, as well as the passing of a number of our long-time residents, but the outpouring of love and respect for the families of these loved ones has shown the steadfastness of the Clear Lake Community. We continue to keep these families in our thoughts and prayers.

The Clear Lake Association has continued to provide its usual activities with a successful Boater Safety Education class on June 8, attended by a number of our young people and their parents. Pizza and snacks were enjoyed by all and every student passed the test and received certification. It's great to know that our younger boat operators have a good grasp of the boating laws and the safety procedures that need to be observed.



Pictured (right) is Kennedy Zeller, one of our successful graduates in action.



The fireworks display by Hollister Pyrotechnics was absolutely fantastic and we're looking forward to working with them again this next year. Thanks to the generous donations from our members, we are exploring ways to "up our game" so next year's display will be even better.

There are lots of other exciting things going on around the lake so I would like to take this opportunity to invite you all to attend the

ANNUAL CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION MEETING
SATURDAY, JULY 27, 9:00 AM
TOWN HALL

There will also be free coffee and donuts! We will have representatives from the various organizations around Clear Lake including the Town Council, the Conservancy, the Marshall's office, the new Zoning Administrator and others. Each will give a very brief overview of the latest and greatest and we will still keep the meeting to an hour. There will be some announcements of exciting upcoming events, so be sure to attend.

Membership applications continue to pour in and I am behind on getting the stickers sent to you, because, well, sometimes life just gets in the way. I continue to work on getting them mailed and I want to thank you in advance for your generosity. I am also working with Brenda at the Town Hall to update our

mailing list to make certain all receive our information. So if you contact her with updated address information, that will be shared with the Association.

Thank you to all who support the Clear Lake Association and I look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting on **July 27th**. Be safe and enjoy your summer here at beautiful Clear Lake.

Kit Tyler, Clear Lake Association President

BUOY, OH, BUOY!

Some say “Swim Area” or “No Wake Area” or “Slow Area.”
Some are new and some are old.

Some have triangles and some have circular designs.

But **all** serve an important role:

~ *Keeping Clear Lake safe for swimmers and boaters alike.*



A little known fact is that your Clear Lake Association provides these swim buoys for deployment in partnership with the Town of Clear Lake. Every year or two we purchase buoys to replace badly damaged or lost buoys. Starting this year, you will start seeing the CLA logo on new buoys. Whenever possible, the new logo will be retrofitted to existing buoys. We are doing this to remind our members and residents of yet another community service project the CLA is able to do with your support.

You, too, can help with this project by making sure that a buoy in your possession is anchored in the water 200 feet from the shoreline. Over the summer, as we are applying the CLA decals to all buoys, we will also be doing an inventory to help determine replacement needs. If you have a buoy that is damaged and needs to be replaced, contact Town Hall (260-495-9158). If you no longer need your buoy, please return it to Town Hall or request that it be picked up.

Enjoy our Clear Lake summers and....be safe!

Bob Webster, Clear Lake Association Board Member

FREE LITTLE LIBRARY OPEN FOR BUSINESS



The Free Little Library has been spruced up and sorted, and is now ready for readers to browse its contents. There are lots of adult fiction, both hard bound and paper back, so please hold off on further donations of adult books. However, the Children’s Shelf only has *two* books! If you have any CHILDREN’S BOOKS that you’re ready to part with, please bring them to the Little Library next to Town Hall, 111 Gecowets Drive.

The Little Library is another project of the Clear Lake Association. It was built in 2013 by CLA Board member George McCracken so that residents and guests could have easy access to books. Clear Lake 2019 Directories are also available for pick up from the library.

News From Around the Town of Clear Lake...

MARSHAL'S REPORT

Summer is upon us again and unfortunately fall is just around the corner and school will be starting in less than a month. Here are some reminders of important guidelines to make the remaining weeks of summer happy and safe.

ROAD SAFETY:

- Drivers: Watch for pedestrians, bicyclists, and golf carts during the busy summer season. With the narrow lake roads and hills, use caution when encountering walkers and bicyclists.
- Bicyclists: Ride with traffic and obey traffic laws. That includes keeping right except to pass.
- Walkers: Please remember to always walk against traffic. You should be facing approaching cars.
- Golf carts: Follow all rules of the road and traffic regulations, as if you were driving a car. The following rules also apply specifically to golf carts:
 - ~ Make sure the appropriate sticker issued by the Town of Clear Lake designating whether the golf cart registration is annual or daily is visibly displayed, as well as a slow moving vehicle emblem.
 - ~ All golf carts shall be equipped with headlamps (if operated after dark within the town), a rear view mirror and factory seating. Occupancy shall not exceed that to be accommodated by factory seating as a golf cart.
 - ~ All persons under the age of 10 shall ride in the front seat of the cart. The driver and all passengers in the golf cart must remain seated while the golf cart is in operation.



BOATING SAFETY:



- Please stay safe on the water! Life jackets are the core of safe boating, whether using a motorized or no-motorized vessel. Good swimmers still need life jackets. When people fall off a boat, they may become disoriented, injured or unconscious. Life jackets can keep a victim's head above water so he/she can breathe and be rescued more easily. Every child should wear a life jacket at all times when boating.
- Exercise good judgement! Respect your limits and keep with your limits to avoid injury. Don't drink and drive a boat; alcohol affects judgment, vision, balance and coordination.
- Use common sense on the water! In a split second, a situation can arise or the weather can turn. If you notice storm clouds, a sudden temperature drop or wind speed increasing, play it safe and get off the water.
- Water skiers, tubers and wake boarders! Learn how to get up out of the water and how to safely use the tow rope. Always have a spotter in the boat, and go over basic hand signals. Make certain the towline is not caught in the propeller or wrapped around you prior to beginning. Wait for the propeller to stop before getting back on the boat. Enjoy these activities during daylight hours only.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone for your cooperation and understanding over the past month. I wish everyone a safe and happy summer. Keep up the good work with keeping an eye on your neighbor's properties and reporting suspicious activity. It does make a difference and keeps Clear Lake a safe place to live.

Chris Emerick, Town Marshal

CLEAR LAKE TOWN COUNCIL

It's hard to believe that we are closely approaching the middle of summer already. By now, you have noticed Town Council has some new staff...Jessica Swander, Clerk-Treasurer and Gary Johnston, Zoning Administrator. Please stop in and say hello when you come in to pick up your directory.

While many of you were away during the winter, the Council was busy updating the website townofclearlake.org and we ordered more swim area buoys. In addition, we will soon be introducing a new online payment option for sewer, golf carts, and all other Town of Clear Lake payments.

The excitement of warm weather brings the joys of family, friends and – for some - the building of new houses. We would like to remind you of a few important considerations.

Noise ordinance (130.01)

- 'Any person who...disturbs the peace'
- can and should be reported
- Applies to all hours of the day and night

Landscaping standards (UDO 5.35)

- Consider planting new trees if one dies or suffers storm damage
- Trees have numerous benefits: soaking up water and retaining soil composition
- Includes canopy trees not just ornamentals
- Landscapers and contractors should not block the roadway

Drainage issues

- Discussed in depth at the last Council meeting
- TOCL does not currently own or have easements to all the drains around the lake
- Do you have a drain into the lake on your property?
- Providing easement to the TOCL means you still own the property and we can work on them

Mosquito spraying

- Hoping to have this done soon
- Ideal wind and rain conditions required
- Reapplication will be done if needed

A big THANK YOU goes to Ken Goeckel and crew for the tree removal at the dam. This was quite a public service undertaking and much appreciated by all!

Molly Wehrenberg, Clear Lake Town Council



- The Clear Lake Town Council meetings are on the second Monday of each month.
- The Clear Lake Plan Commission meetings are on the first Monday of February, May, August, November.
- The Clear Lake Board of Zoning Appeals meetings are on the third Monday of February, April, June, August, October and December.
- Trash Pickup is on Mondays unless otherwise noted. Go to clearlakefun.org and click on TOWN, then CALENDAR for recycling pick up and leaf collection dates.



Please note: If you have made any changes in your postal or email addresses or phone number(s), contact Brenda Eby, Utility Clerk (billing@townofclearlake.org) or complete the form available on town website.

Clear Lake Town Hall
111 Gecowets Drive
Walk-in Hours: Noon-4:00 pm, Monday thru Friday
or by appointment. Call 260-495-9158 or
visit www.townofclearlake.org

FROM OFFICE OF CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP LAND CONSERVANCY

Summer is typically the most active time of the year for the Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy. 2019 is holding true to the norm as you'll read in the highlights below! I am delighted to announce that Tracy Hughes has joined us on a part-time basis as Program Assistant for Conservation and Stewardship to help us accomplish our mission.

The community came together June 22nd for SummerFest☀️2019 at the Clear Lake Yacht Club to celebrate the beginning of summer and raise funds for the Conservancy. We salute the wonderful people who bought tickets, were sponsors, purchased auction items and joined friends and neighbors on a gorgeous June evening for conversation, fun and delicious small plate cuisine from Bon Appétit and dancing with the Midwest Originals. Funds raised support the Conservancy's land stewardship, water quality testing and education programs year round.



The final phase of the Kasota Island Shoreline Restoration Project was completed and protective fencing removed from the south, west and north shores. Conservancy volunteers performed the annual cleanup of the Kasota Island Nature Preserve on the eve of the Fourth of July weekend. This property is by far the most frequently visited Nature Preserve owned by the Conservancy. Help us keep it beautiful for all to enjoy. Shoreline rocks should be left in place to prevent erosion.

Almost 80 middle school students from Fremont Middle School put in a full day of trail building and trail maintenance in Brennan Woods for the Conservancy at the end of May. The students also celebrated the completion of a class science project researching and designing educational outdoor signs for the eco-systems within Clear Lake Nature Preserve. The signs are impressive! Once installed, we invite you to admire them this as you enjoy a hike in the Preserve.

Environmental Education is a key part of the Conservancy's mission. For individuals or small groups, a Docent Program was launched this summer offering a guided tour of any public Conservancy property. Just call the office to schedule a tour with a trained Volunteer Docent.

Public education programs sponsored by the Conservancy in summer 2019 include a Michindoh Aquifer update (June), a tour of the Fremont Schools Solar Panel Farm (July), a Night Skies Program (August) and a

full month of Knee-high Naturalist programs every Friday in July. We know it is mission critical to introduce our youngest generation to the joys and wonders of nature as well to keep all of us informed on key environmental issues.

The Conservancy's mission is to preserve and protect the natural beauty we all enjoy in and around Clear Lake and the Clear Lake Township and Watershed. We all benefit, including generations to come. We need and value your support and appreciate the many partnerships we have throughout the community, including with the Clear Lake Association, as we work together to achieve this mission.

Bridget Harrison
Executive Director
Clearlakeconservancy.org



Annual membership contributions to The Clear Lake Association provide funding for the publication and distribution of this Newsletter. The purpose of this publication is to communicate activities of Clear Lake Association, the Town government and other Clear Lake organizations to all property owners. If you would like to receive CLA Newsletter, please send your email address to: bonniedon1@gmail.com. Thank you. Beth McCracken, Editor