



THE VOICE OF THE CHAIN OF LAKES

The Misquah Pilot-Independent

“Where the coffee’s hot, the lakes are cold, and all the children are above average.” — Serving the Chain since 1897.

FROM THE ARCHIVE You are reading No. 18, May 5, 2026. Return to this week’s edition →

VOL. CXXIX — NO. 18

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

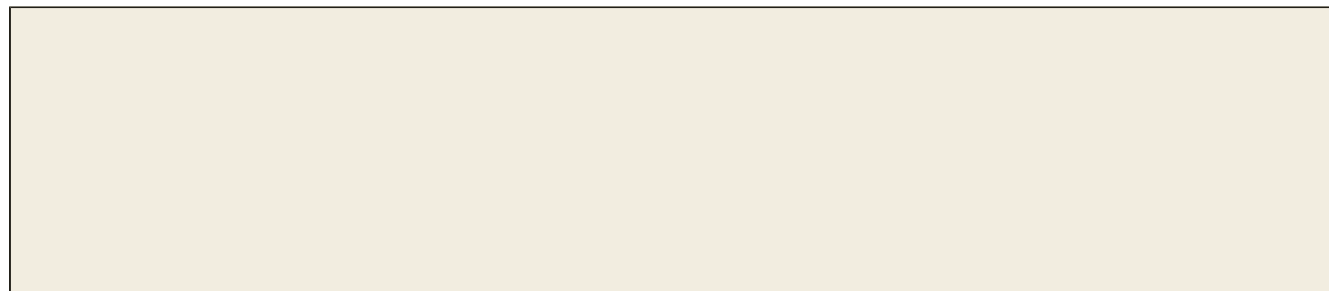
Fishing Opener Preview

FISHING OPENER

Chain Braces for Saturday’s Fishing Opener

Minnows are counted, thermoses are located, and the first official exaggeration is expected by breakfast.

BY TIM BREVIK, FISHING & WEATHER CORRESPONDENT • TIM’S BAIT & LIQUOR • MAY 5, 2026





CHAIN BRACES FOR SATURDAY'S FISHING OPENER. — PILOT-INDEPENDENT PHOTO

By midmorning Monday, the counter at Tim's Bait & Liquor had disappeared under license forms, coffee cups, minnow invoices, and the sort of folded lake maps men keep in glove boxes long after the folds have stopped meaning anything. Minnesota's fishing opener arrives Saturday, and Misquah, as usual, is behaving as if a holiday has been announced by the Department of Natural Resources and confirmed by the coffee urn.

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Tim Brevik said he has ordered enough fatheads, shiners, leeches, nightcrawlers, hooks, propane, lantern mantles, bobbers, and "other necessary foolishness" to get the Chain through the first weekend, though he declined to say whether he had ordered enough advice. "You can never have enough advice," Brevik said. "That's the problem with advice."

LOCAL SPONSORS

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BAIT • FUEL • ADVICE

Tim's Bait & Liquor

Open before the fish are.

Highway 9 • Near the landing

ADVERTISEMENT

COFFEE • PIE • TALK

Daybreak Café

Breakfast served hot. Opinions
served hotter.

Main Street • Since anybody can
remember

ADVERTISEMENT

LAKE COUNTRY

Loon Ridge Resort & Golf

Cabins, greens, pontoons, and
geese with tenure.

East shore of Big Pelican

Local sponsorships are kept quiet, clearly labeled, and out of the middle of the story.

STORIES IN THIS EDITION

NEWS



Landing Lot Lines Repainted; Debate Begins Immediately

The fresh stripes at Big Pelican last eighteen minutes before receiving public comment.

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LAKES & OUTDOORS



Bait Shop Minnow Count Reaches 'Plenty'

Tim declines to provide an exact figure, citing competitive reasons and fatigue.

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SCHOOLS



Third Grade Trout Release Scheduled for Later This Month

Students prepare questions, feelings, and buckets.

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THE KLATCH

Eunice Packs Emergency Opener Sandwiches

The official recommendation is ham, mustard, and no lettuce unless you want trouble.

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SPORTS

Pike Baseball Waits for Field to Firm Up

The infield is described as improved, meaning shoes no longer disappear entirely.

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OPINION

Our View: Let the Opener Be What It Is

A defense of cold hands, gas-station coffee, and the democracy of boat ramps.

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OBITUARIES

Leona Mattson, 94

Remembered for quilts, garden rows, and never once buying tomatoes after July.

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THE BLOTTER

Trailer Lights Checked, Mostly

Deputy asks residents to test signals before turning left in front of people with opinions.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Wanted: Working Trolling Motor or Reasonable Lie

Cash offered; battery not included.

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CALENDAR

Opener Breakfast at Fire Hall, 4:30 a.m.

Pancakes, sausage, and the earliest civic conversation of the year.

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