



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. 19, May 12, 2026. [Return to this week’s edition →](#)

VOL. CXXIX — NO. 19

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

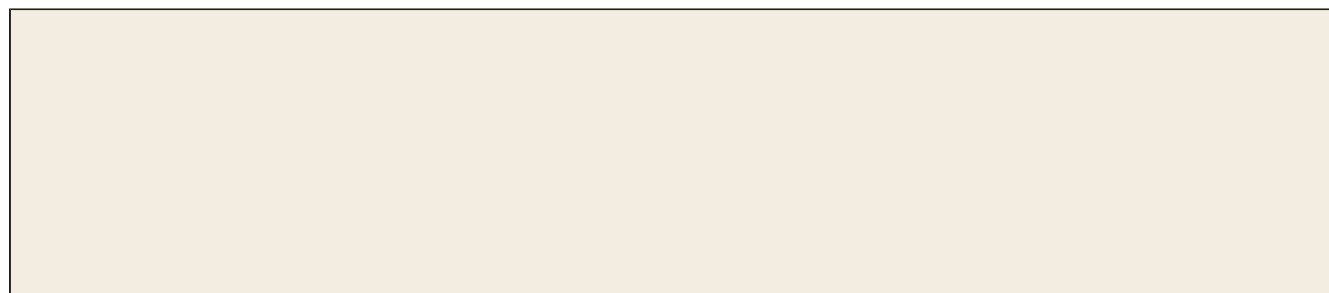
Fishing Opener Recap

LAKES & OUTDOORS

Opener Arrives Cold, Clear, and Selective

Saturday brings boats to every landing, coffee to every thermos, and fish to people who will not say where.

BY TIM BREVIK, FISHING & WEATHER CORRESPONDENT • BIG PELICAN LANDING • MAY 12, 2026





OPENER ARRIVES COLD, CLEAR, AND SELECTIVE. — PILOT-INDEPENDENT PHOTO

Fishing opener came to the Chain on Saturday under a sky so clear it seemed almost accusatory. The temperature at first light sat low enough to make coffee steam sideways, the lake lay flat enough to show every ripple, and the walleyes, according to most people interviewed by this paper, were present in the spiritual sense.

By 5:10 a.m., trucks and trailers had filled the main lot at Big Pelican Landing and begun the annual migration toward the shoulder. Headlamps moved through the mist. Thermoses changed hands. Someone dropped a net, someone else said that was bad luck, and a third person reminded both of them that luck is what people talk about when they have not yet found fish.

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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

Town Debates Stop Sign, Continued From 1957

The fourth sign proposal returns with a new diagram and the same faces.

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LAKES & OUTDOORS

Loons Return to Big Pelican on Schedule

Observers confirm two adults, one nest site, and zero respect for resort quiet hours.

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BUSINESS

Hardware Store 'Open Most Days' Again

The sign is back in the window, though 'most' remains undefined.

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THE KLATCH



Mother's Day Brunch Exhausts Both Waffle Irons

Daybreak staff report no injuries and one argument over chokecherry syrup.

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SCHOOLS



Band Concert Ends With Sousa, As Intended

The spring concert lands where every spring concert eventually must.

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SPORTS



Pike Softball Practices Around Puddle

Coach calls the puddle 'a character test' and a parent calls it 'a drainage issue.'

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OPINION



Our View: Opener Is a Civic Holiday

The paper endorses recognizing opener with the seriousness already given to it by the bait freezer.

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OBITUARIES



Russell 'Rusty' Berg, 82

A mechanic, veteran, and teller of stories that required a second cup.



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THE BLOTTER

Dock Light Mistaken for Distress Signal

Deputy confirms light was solar, blinking, and emotionally misleading.

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CALENDAR

Historical Society Pie Social Saturday

Pie accepted by noon; opinions accepted continuously.

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