



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. 20, May 19, 2026. Return to this week’s edition →

VOL. CXXIX — NO. 20

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

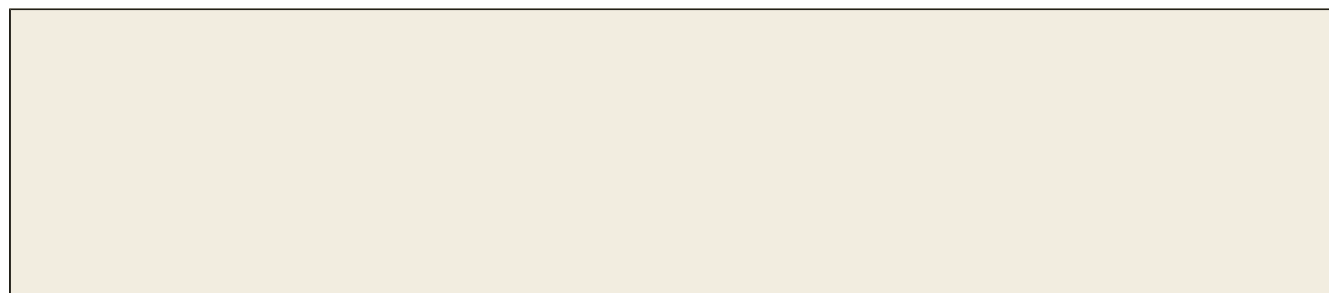
Spring Work, Soft Roads

NEWS

Ice Officially Out; Last Bet Settled at Tim’s

The Chain gives up winter after a long argument, and a coffee-can pool changes hands by 10:15 a.m.

BY PILOT-INDEPENDENT STAFF • MISQUAH • MAY 19, 2026





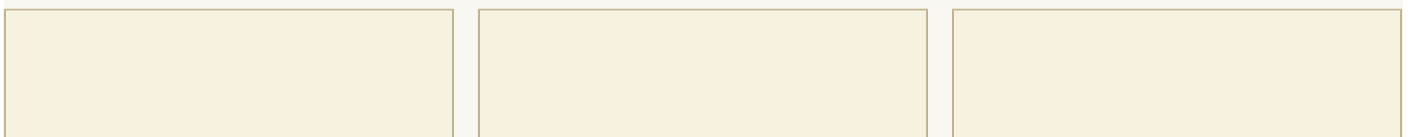
ICE OFFICIALLY OUT; LAST BET SETTLED AT TIM'S. — PILOT-INDEPENDENT PHOTO

The ice went out on the Chain Thursday morning with little ceremony and considerable satisfaction, breaking loose on Little Pelican shortly after nine and drifting south in thin, gray plates that looked, from shore, like winter finally leaving because it had been asked often enough.

The official declaration came at 9:17 a.m. from Tim Brevik, who has no formal authority in the matter beyond owning the bait shop window most people use to look at the lake. “I saw open water clear to the point,” Brevik said. “That’s good enough for me and better than most committees.”

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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

Spring Cleanup Removes Three Docks, One Mistakenly

*The mistaken dock has been returned, minus one board and with
apologies.*

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THE KLATCH

Lutefisk Supper Date Set

*The Lutherans announce June 7; the Methodists announce they are
busy.*

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LAKES & OUTDOORS

Mosquito Index Moves From Theoretical to Personal

The first official slap was recorded behind the post office at 7:42 p.m.

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SCHOOLS

Fifth Grade Wax Museum Features Three Paul Bunyans

Judges praise ambition and recommend more axes made of cardboard.

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SPORTS

Pike Baseball Rained Out, Then Discussed Anyway

Spectators debate whether the cancellation favored Lakeside.

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OPINION

Our View: Paint the Lines Before the Parade

A modest request from a paper that has watched the same turn for 129 years.

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OBITUARIES

Gladys Rantala, 89

Remembered for quilting, cinnamon rolls, and the phrase 'that'll hold.'

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THE BLOTTER



Goat at Large Near County 6

The goat returned home before deputies could determine motive.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Free: Assorted Boards, Mostly Straight

Must pick up before owner changes mind or finds another use.

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CALENDAR

Fire Department Pancake Breakfast Sunday

Syrup to be served hot unless the warmer does that thing again.

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