



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.

DEVELOPING The bear is back at the Daybreak dumpster. The bungee held. The bear is thinking. Full story →

FROM THE ARCHIVE You are reading No. 24, June 16, 2026. Return to this week’s edition →

CITY COUNCIL

Council Names Stop-Sign Subcommittee, One Member Short

Three appointed to study the corner at Birch and Second; the fourth seat goes begging after Bunde declines “on principle.”

BY MARVELLA TOLLEFSON, EDITOR & CHIEF TYPESETTER • MISQUAH • JUNE 16, 2026



THE CORNER OF BIRCH & SECOND, WHERE THE NEAREST STOP SIGN FACES THE CAMERA, THE FAR SIGN SHOWS ITS BACK, AND THE LEFT SIGN SHOWS ONLY ITS EDGE. — PILOT-INDEPENDENT PHOTO

MISQUAH — The City Council on Monday appointed three members to the new subcommittee charged with studying a proposed fourth stop sign at Birch Street and Second Avenue, leaving the panel one seat short of the four it had, after some discussion, decided it ought to have.

Named were Alderman Pete Hagen, the sign's longtime champion; City Clerk Donna Skoglund, serving ex officio and, she noted for the minutes, "against my own advice";

and resident Harold Aas, the retired postmaster, who said he had "nothing pressing until the fishing picks back up."

The fourth seat went unfilled. Mayor Gloria Vik had proposed a four-member panel "for balance," a structure that immediately raised the prospect of tie votes. Asked how the subcommittee would break a 2-2 deadlock, Vik said it could "cross that bridge if it ever builds one."

— ADVERTISEMENT —

INSURANCE SINCE
1948

**Bergstrom
Agency**

Home • Auto •
Farm • Boat

*“We’ll cover the
dock. We can’t
cover the geese.”*

ON MAIN, ABOVE THE
BANK

ON THE SHORE
OF BIG PELICAN

**Loon
Ridge
Resort &
Golf**

*Eighteen holes •
Lakeside dining
Cabins, pontoons
& a sunset worth
the drive*

ASK ABOUT THE
LOCALS’ RATE.
WE’LL THINK ABOUT
IT.

MEMBER FDIC, IN
SPIRIT

**First
State
Bank of
Misquah**

*Where they still
know your name,
and your father’s
Boat loans • Cabin
loans • Christmas
Club*

CORNER OF MAIN &
FIRST

OPEN 5:30 A.M.,
BLESS US

**The
Daybreak
Café**

*Bottomless coffee
• Pie that ended a
meeting
Hotdish daily •
The Klatch
convenes here*

MAIN STREET,
YOU’LL SMELL IT

LOCAL SPONSORS

ADVERTISEMENT

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.



LOOKING AHEAD

Fourth of July Plans Take Shape; Parade Route Unchanged, There Being One Street

The Independence Day committee met Thursday at the Legion and finalized plans for the Fourth of July celebration, which will, the committee is pleased to report, closely resemble the celebration held last year, and the year before, and for as long as anyone can reliably remember. [MORE →](#)

AROUND TOWN

Bear Returns to Daybreak Dumpster; Café Answers With a Bungee

A black bear that has developed an interest in the dumpster behind the Daybreak Café returned for a third consecutive night Sunday, prompting the café to secure the lid with a bungee cord, a length of chain, and what owner Marge Tollefson described as “a stern note the bear has not, so far, acknowledged.” [MORE →](#)

PUBLIC WORKS

Hydrant Flushing Ends; Three Calls to Donna, Exactly as Predicted

The water department completed its annual hydrant flushing across town last week, restoring clear water to the east side by Thursday and generating, by the department’s own tally, three telephone calls to City Clerk Donna Skoglund — exactly the number the department had predicted, and, it noted, “down one from last year.” [MORE →](#)



LAKES & OUTDOORS

THE FISHING REPORT

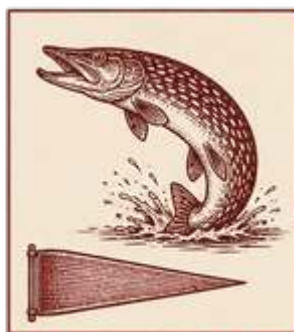
Walleye Turn Sullen at Midday; Evening Bite Still Honest

The walleye have gone a little sullen at midday on the Chain, as they tend to once the water climbs past sixty-five, but the evening bite on Big Pelican remains, in the considered judgment of the cleaning station behind Tim's, "honest." [MORE →](#)

ON THE WATER

First Loon Chicks Sighted on Big Pelican; Resort Asked to Slow Down

The first loon chicks of the season were sighted on Big Pelican over the weekend — two of them, riding low on their mother's back near the Loon Ridge shoreline — prompting the Chain's loon-count volunteers to revise their tally upward and the resort, once again, to ask its guests to slow down. [MORE →](#)



SPORTS

SUMMER REC LEAGUE

Pike Move to 2–0; This Time the Fence Stays Out of It

The Lakeside Pike improved to 2–0 in the Northwoods Recreation League on Saturday, beating the visiting Two Rivers Loggers 9–5 in a game notable, after last week, mainly for what it lacked: any argument whatsoever about the left-field fence. [MORE →](#)

LEGION BASEBALL

Post 162 Earns First Win; Lone Light Tower Holds

The Misquah Post 162 Legion baseball team picked up its first win of the season Wednesday, beating Birchard 5–3 at the Legion field under a single working light tower

that, manager Sonny Dahl reported afterward, “held, on account of nobody leaning on the panel.” [MORE →](#)

SCHOOLS

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THE LIBRARY

Solberg Clears the Wolves; Library Contemplates a Tier It Does Not Have

Brynn Solberg has cleared the wolves. [MORE →](#)

OPINION

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EDITORIAL · OUR VIEW

Our View: Three Is a Sufficient Number

The town now has a subcommittee to study the corner of Birch and Second, and the subcommittee, as of Monday, has three members and an empty fourth chair. [MORE →](#)



THE KLATCH & LIVING

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LIVING · EUNICE’S KITCHEN

What to Do About All This Rhubarb

There is too much rhubarb. [MORE →](#)

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OBITUARY
Doris Eleanor Knutson, 93

Doris Eleanor Knutson, 93, of Misquah, died peacefully on Wednesday, June 11, 2026, at the Lakeview care home in Pinedale, with her family near. [MORE →](#)

AROUND TOWN

Stop-sign hearing July 14, 7 p.m. at City Hall. The new subcommittee will present its findings, assuming it has by then located a fourth member, or stopped looking.

Brush pickup wrapped Friday. Public Works reports it took everything offered “except the Sorensens’ stump, which is a separate conversation, and possibly a separate department.”

Strawberry social Sunday at First Lutheran, 2–4 p.m., free-will offering toward the basement roof — now in year fourteen and, the bulletin maintains, “closer.”

Beach advisory lifted for the Big Pelican public beach; the county reports the water “well within the normal range for a lake in June.”

Library summer hours are now 9 to 7 weekdays. The reading program has advanced one participant to a tier the library is still in the process of inventing.

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Fourth of July parade lineup forms 9:30 a.m. on Main. Entries welcome — floats, tractors, and the one unicycle, as always.

[MORE TOWN NEWS →](#)



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