



# Shorelines

Published By The Balsam Lake Homeowners' Association  
A volunteer, nonprofit organization serving the lake community since 1974.



JUNE 2019

Member Website:  
[www.balsamlake.com](http://www.balsamlake.com)

## BALSAM LAKE HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

### INJURED BALD EAGLE RESCUED

By Tom Russell



**Late in the afternoon of July 10th**, my wife and I witnessed nature's circle of life on Balsam Lake. A mother duck was escorting her string of chicks through the shallow water along the shore when a bald eagle swept down from above. Mama hurried her young ones under our boat dock and the eagle missed its strike attempt.

**Seconds later we heard a loud "bang"** to our east and sadly discovered the eagle had flown into one of our neighbor's windows and laid injured on their deck. After an anxious hour or so, the eagle managed to raise its head up and we were hopeful it would survive the impact. After numerous calls to Wisconsin DNR phone numbers, I was finally referred to the University of Minnesota's Raptor Center. The Center was very helpful and said someone would contact me in the morning to arrange rescue of the eagle. By noon the next day, Raptor Center volunteer, Jim Johnston and his wife Mary, arrived on site.

**Eighteen hours after the incident occurred**, the bird had managed to make its way several hundred feet to the east. While my wife and I watched with great interest and anticipation, Jim donned heavy leather gloves and pursued and captured the eagle. He assessed the bird for injuries and they gently placed it into a soft sided cage saying it was a very healthy looking female Bald Eagle weighing approximately eleven pounds.

**During the next several weeks** I received a number of text messages from the recovery team apprising us of our eagle's condition, and we were happy to learn there were no broken bones. However, she had suffered internal injuries as a result of the impact. Our eagle finally recovered, and on August 13th, Raptor Center's volunteers, Jim Johnston and Terry Headley, returned to Balsam Lake's north shore where I was allowed to release this beautiful symbol of our nation back into its natural habitat. Our thanks to the University of Minnesota's Raptor Center and the volunteers that were instrumental in bringing this story to a happy ending.

Tom Russell  
Kemah Park Trail, Balsam Lake, WI



## SAVE THE DATE!

(and watch for updates in the email blasts)

### **Balsam Lake Farmers Market**

Starting Friday, May 24, 3 to 5 p.m. and on every Friday until Friday, October 11

### **BLHA Members Welcome to Summer Party**

Saturday, June 1, 3 to 5 p.m.

At the Thirsty Otter

Chris O'Leary Band starts at 9:30 p.m.

### **Balsam Lake Invitational Ski Show**

Saturday, June 29, 7 p.m. - Bring a chair or blanket to sit in front of Sunnyside Marina. There will be a free-will donation collected during intermission. If you enjoy the show, please bring a few dollars along to donate to this great group.

### **Balsam Lake Freedom Fest - July 5-7**

All Weekend, Softball Tourney at Pine Park  
Friday, July 5, 6 p.m., Hot Rod Tractor Pull,  
Main Street

Friday, July 5, Dusk, Fireworks, Town Bay

Saturday, July 6, 7 a.m., Freedom Fest 5K

Contact Joey, 715-554-7616

Saturday, July 6, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Craft Fair, Main St.

Saturday, July 6, 3-6 p.m., Main Street Car Stroll

Saturday, July 6, 8 p.m.-Midnight, Todd Hurst

Sunday, July 7, 9 a.m., Vintage Car Show, Main St.

Sunday, July 7, 2 p.m., Parade

### **Artist Reception for Family, Friends and Neighbors**

Saturday, July 6, 6-9 p.m.

Balsam Arts, 314 Main Street

### **Balsam Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District Annual Meeting**

Saturday, July 20, 8:30 a.m.

Unity School Auditorium

### **Balsam Lake Homeowners' Association Annual Meeting**

Friday, August 9, 8:30 a.m., Paradise Landing

### **Balsam Lake Invitational Ski Show**

Saturday, August 31, 6 p.m. - Bring a chair or blanket to sit in front of Sunnyside Marina.



Balsam Lake - "My favorite place to be!" – Joey Dee



Molly Brunswold – Living the good life on Balsam Lake.

## shorelines

Published and distributed three times a year (June, July, August) to homes adjacent to Balsam Lake, Wisconsin by the Balsam Lake Homeowners' Association, a private, nonprofit volunteer organization supported by membership dues, contributions, and advertising subsidies.

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- To submit an article or photograph: [jeanegerman@gmail.com](mailto:jeanegerman@gmail.com).

- Advertising inquiries: [www.balsamlake.com](http://www.balsamlake.com) or Box 8, Balsam Lake, WI 54810.

**2019 June article contributors:** Pat Feim, Tom Russell, Mary Skarat, Thomas Thompson & Dave Turbenson.

**Layout:** Gayle Olson. **Editor:** Jean Egerman.

# HELLO AND GOODBYE FROM BALSAM LAKE POLICE CHIEF TOM THOMPSON

**It's almost time for another boating season** in Balsam Lake, and Police Chief Tom Thompson will miss it. Chief Thompson retired in May to pursue his doctoral degree in Criminal Justice, and before leaving for this new adventure, he and colleagues attended the annual Department of Natural Resources Patrol training. He offers this snippet to let you know the new rules and laws that are in effect as of 2019.

**"We get our grant funding** from the Wisconsin DNR, and the Wisconsin DNR gets the money from the United States Coast Guard." Tom said some of the issues new in 2019 pertain to Coast Guard rules and reporting requirements of the grant funding.

**These new laws** may impact you on Balsam Lake.

- Accessory LED lighting on and around boats: Coast Guard rules explain what is recommended and required on Federal Waterways. LED's, rope lighting, and underwater lighting may violate navigation light provisions of the Nautical Rules of the Road.
- Wisconsin Blue Light Law says that No Vessel may be equipped with or display a blue-colored light or lamp unless the vessel is a patrol boat. as defined in SS 30.50(9b).

**While exterior blue lighting may not be legal**, interior walkway lighting or cup holders in blue that can't be seen from outside the craft are acceptable, Tom recommends talking to your dealer before installing or using any auxiliary lights to make sure they comply with current Wisconsin law.

**Tom wants to remind boaters that no lights**, other than the front red/green and rear white-navigational light, may be used underway between sunset and sunrise. This includes docking lights.

- New "Move Over Law" for marine law enforcement: It is now a "Slow No Wake Zone" within 100 feet of a patrol boat displaying emergency lights.
- Registration: If you live outside of WI and use your boat mainly on Balsam Lake or keep it on a boat lift on Balsam Lake, you MUST register your boat in Wisconsin.

**Tom asks that Balsam Lake Homeowners** let their neighbors know about registering their boat in Wisconsin since grant funding for our boat patrol, is based on the number of boat registrations in Wisconsin. Because DNR registrations and renewals have been delayed this year, he suggests getting a Temporary Registration form, which must be on the boat until your new registration arrives.

**There are laws and items** that will be emphasized this year, Tom explained. "All laws are enforced, and these will be emphasized."

**This year, every boat stopped** will go through a compliance check. "The Coast Guard is monitoring how many compliance checks are done by us as part of the grant," Tom said. The compliance check will consist of the following:

- Everyone will have to hold up a Personal Floatation Device (PFD) that is serviceable and correctly sized for the person.
- PDFs Must be "readily accessible", meaning they can't be in a locked or difficult to access compartment.
- PDFs can NOT be in the original plastic; they must be accessible and ready to use.
- The throwable PFD must NOT be stowed and must be out for immediate use.
- The battery will be checked to make sure it can't tip and the terminals are covered.
- The fire extinguisher will be checked. Any boat with any enclosed space for gas fumes to accumulate, must have a fire extinguisher.
- Does the operator have a Boaters Safety Certificate?

**Tom reminds boaters** that riding on decks, gunwales or tops of seats is not allowed, even at slow no-wake speeds. His concern is safety. He has served as the Balsam Lake Police Chief for almost eight years and has enjoyed working with the Balsam Lake Homeowners. We have enjoyed our time with him as well and wish him the best in the next chapter of his life.



## 2019 BOATER SAFETY CLASS

**The Balsam Lake Police Department** encourages people to participate in a Boater Safety Course. The program is offered through the Department of Natural Resources and is available online at [www.gowild.wi.gov](http://www.gowild.wi.gov). Individuals must be 10 years of age to participate in the course and are required to complete the Boater Safety program by age 12 to operate a boat or personal watercraft by themselves.

# BALSAM ARTS AT 314 MAIN STREET

By Mary Skaret

*I really didn't think they could make it* - an Art Gallery in Balsam Lake, an Art School/center with an ambiguous purpose. I met Jean Egerman and Michael Jekot in the fall of 2017 before I pursued my own winter escape. I had seen the early publicity that said it was going to involve doing and displaying "art." Thinking, I was interested in "art," I would visit. They were super welcoming, had some great ideas and even picked up on my desire to see some display of local art. But they seemed very naive to me (I saw myself as a veteran of the Balsam Lake scene!)

**314 Main Street**, the Anderson (drugstore) and Nelton (law office) building, I knew was a beautiful place. It had been built by Earl Nelton in 1938. It was his law office upstairs and a drugstore and post office downstairs. After 1945 it was owned by the Neltons and Barney and Jim Anderson, who had the drugstore. That drugstore with a little curved fountain had been favorite Balsam Lake "hang out" until it closed in the late 1980's. Avis Mabry a life-long resident reminisced about Ron Helms in the mid 50's arriving about 4:30 - 5:00 every summer Friday night, ordering a malt and playing Elvis on the juke box until closing (Ron and his family still live on the main lake each summer.).

**Helen Tuttle Freeman (1902 - 2002)** also a life-long resident, had been the Balsam Lake postmistress on the south side until it moved to the new post office in 1991. Peter Nelton, who still lives in his childhood house on the edge of the town of Balsam Lake, continued practicing law upstairs until he retired in 2004. I remember being there once and it had large collection of antique law books that covered a big wall and all the accoutrements of a prestigious law office with leather, heavy wood furniture and even a chandelier. When Peter retired, the building was sold by the Nelton and Anderson families. After the drugstore and post office left, the first floor had several businesses including various gift shops and even a bar. In 2011 Sandy and Tom Mabry bought the building for a photography studio and meticulously remodeled the exterior and whole first floor. Mike Jekot says, "Tom and Sandy did the heavy lifting with the restoration. We knew right away that we could remake the upstairs into a wonderful living space and move forward with our dreams."

**Jean Egerman and Michael Jekot**, a new couple from Minneapolis, were visiting Jean's sisters and brothers-in-laws, Mary and Peter Petersen and Joann and Tom Parnell, who have property on Balsam Lake. They were told by Mary that a "neat building on Main Street was for sale," and they thought it would be fun to look at it. Michael said he looked up the stairs at the beautiful chandelier on the second floor and fell in love with that wonderful, renovated space - integrating the old with the new. "We weren't even looking for a new studio or place to live, but it fit with our dreams. A nice place to live with perfect spaces for art gallery, studio and classes. It fit us perfectly!"

**That was July of 2017**, and when they put down earnest money a few days later, they looked at each other on the way back to Minneapolis and said, "Yikes! We bought a building today!" They closed in August 2017, moved into the building in September, and with several of Michael's artist friends, had the first art show in November of 2017.

**When I came back this summer** they were not only "making it" they were still excited about what they were doing. Michael exclaimed, "It was a good year!" Smiling, he said, "We got married in the gallery, built a deck, and fixed up the back yard. We became WITC Instructors and have had fun hosting classes and retreats."

**Balsam Arts held five shows in 2018** including a month in July where art from the community was featured. I knew right away when I heard about their overall goals for themselves and the space that they wanted to integrate into a community and live a fun and interesting encore to their lives. They are doing that in a special way by listening and learning what the community wants and figuring out how to provide those opportunities. Their orientation is "what works." They have hosted birthday parties, a family wedding, art experiences for mother/daughters' retreats, and a graduation party. They have offered art classes that people can relate to, like "paint a bird," or "your pet." And they mentor a homeschool student who ultimately developed a relationship with an elderly artist.

**Jean and Michael offer a "Cheap Date Night"** to the community the first Saturday each month from 6- 9 p.m. This free event at the gallery might offer live music, family art projects, a film (with

popcorn,) wine tasting (for adults only) - or whatever the community wants.

**"Our big goal is to be part of the community with our art,"** Michael explained. "In our first year we introduced 40 new artists, and more than 500 visitors signed our guest book. We have a unique space, and we enjoy sharing it."

So keep your eyes open for what Jean and Michael will bring us next. And stop in and let them know what your dreams are - they might figure out how to do it!



# CALL FOR ARTISTS 2019

Balsam Arts, 314 Main Street in Balsam Lake, is hosting the second-annual exhibit of works by artists in your community. We hope you will consider submitting your art for consideration in this local-only show of talent.

*"Family, Friends and Neighbors" July 2019*

## Guidelines:

**Who can exhibit:** Residents and homeowners of the Balsam Lake Community

**Medium and Theme:** Any medium that can be easily wall mounted (framed or wrapped canvas). Sculpture and textiles also are eligible for submission.

**Size:** Maximum 26x30".

**Number of Entries:** Artists may submit up to two entries, one of which will be considered for inclusion in the exhibit. Space limits the exhibit to 20 artists per year.

**Artwork Labels:** For insurance purposes, displayed art must include the title of work, medium, and price.

**Submission Deadline:** Entries will be considered through June 15 for the July exhibit.

Contact Us: [www.Balsamarts.com](http://www.Balsamarts.com). Michael Jekot, 612-940-3534; Jean Egerman, 312-804-4241.



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## BOAT PARADE ROUTE Saturday, July 6 3 p.m.



## DID YOU KNOW?

*The Shepherd House*, as the historical sign says, is "the oldest lumber house in Balsam Lake." It was built by Thad Thayer in 1946 to persuade his Ojibwa wife, Ogumakwa, to join him in Balsam Lake. She did for a short time, but she didn't stay.

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# BALSAM LAKE FARMERS MARKET

**Don't forget!** The Balsam Lake Farmers Market is open Friday afternoons beginning May 24, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church parking lot. See what your community is producing this year! **Our Lady of the Lakes** offers freshly baked pies in the Fall, and throughout the season you may find caramel rolls from the church kitchen, hand-woven rugs and creative wooden boxes made by local artisans. **Pike Hole Farms** brings freshly-picked rhubarb and other early vegetables from the garden. **Endeavor's** greenhouse in Milltown provides hydroponically grown (tastes like midsummer harvest) tomatoes from the garden all year long. **Esther and Dick Nelson** will have homemade jams, jellies, pickles, maple syrup collected and cooked at their farm, shitake and oyster mushrooms, and local honey from their hives. Occasionally they have "carrier" bags, made by their daughter from animal feed bags, which are wonderful for minimizing the use of plastic bags. **Lucas West** from Growing Wishes Greenhouse always has surprises for the Farmer's Market. This first market he will be bringing bedding plants, perennials, houseplants, succulents, produce and other plants from his garden and greenhouses. **Mary Hannahan** brings her eco-fire starters made from pure palm oil (nonpetroleum) and wood chips. We love them at the lake! **Luis Delgado** from KJ's Up North (aka Balsam Lake Ice Cream - BLICs) brings pastries in his vintage pickup truck. And, of course, **Helen Yourchuck** from Luck has fresh eggs - chicken, duck and sometimes goose (with advice about use!).

Remember. The Balsam Lake Farmers Market sells anything that is made at home, so we invite you to bring the creative projects you've been working on all winter. How about your artwork, woodcraft, inventions, music, sewing and craft projects, or anything you make in your home or garden? Come as a buyer or vendor. One day vending is \$5.00 and full season is \$30.00. If you have questions about what is appropriate, call our leader, Esther Nelson at 715-268-8223.

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.BALSAMLAKE.COM](http://WWW.BALSAMLAKE.COM)**



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# BALSAM LAKE SHORT STORY

By Dave Turbenson

**Back in 2009**, a new cabin neighbor allowed her 21-year-old granddaughter Suzy to have 15 friends up to their cabin for a weekend of fun. We were out at Minneapolis point and noticed she dropped off 8 of her friends at the sand bar. We knew there were storms in MN and decided to head back to our cabin. On the way back we noticed Suzy was heading back to the sand bar with another group of friends on her pontoon. Back at the cabin, I check my Blackberry and could see there were big storms in St Croix Falls coming our way.

**I hopped on my pontoon** and headed back to Minneapolis point. As I was pulling up the skies were turning very dark and there was thunder in the distance. They were in the process of loading up half of the ladies on Suzy's pontoon. At that moment a large bolt of lightning hit west of the lake and the loud thunder startled all of us. As I pulled up, one of the frightened ladies said, "Are you here to save us?" I said, "yes I am." They all loaded up and both pontoons raced back to East Balsam to beat the storm. As we pulled into our docks the skies opened up followed by a windy thunderstorm. I was invited over to celebrate her near miss. I sent my 21-year-old nephew over instead and that is another story...



**Dave's notes:** I know most of us on the lake have rescued a few stranded boaters or jet skis over the years. Just a reminder to keep ample rope on your vessels in case you need a tow and consider a whistle or air-horn to signal other boaters in case you're ever in trouble.

**Have a Balsam Lake short story to share? Email them to [jeanegerman@gmail.com](mailto:jeanegerman@gmail.com).**

## LIBRARY NEWS

The Youth Summer Library Program is packed with fun activities for kids of all ages, every Tuesday and Wednesday starting June 11 until July 16.

**June 11:** Interstate Park Presentation

**June 12:** Kid Power w/Rachael – Kick-Off Party June 18, Pro-Lawn Fairy Gardens

**June 19:** "Mixed Nuts" Magic & Comedy at Unity School

**June 25:** Crex Meadows Presentation June 26, Launch and Light science fun

**July 3:** Fawn-Doe-Rosa presents "Furry Tales" July 9, Underwater Universe with Polk County Land & Water

**July 10:** Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center present Raptors

**July 16:** Finale Party w/ Magic of Isaiah "Rocket into Reading"

### ADULT SUMMER AUTHOR SERIES

*Presented by the Friends of the Balsam Lake Public Library*

- **Joe Niese** - June 11, at 6:30 p.m., at the library
- **Lorna Landvik** - July 9, at 6:30 p.m., at the library
- **Patricia Skalka** - August 6, at 6:30 p.m., at church

More information on these and other events will be posted on our Facebook and Instagram (bllibrary) pages as well as our website [www.balsamlakepubliclibrary.org](http://www.balsamlakepubliclibrary.org).

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Mason Martinelli. Who says fishing isn't fun!



Tangley Snooze Cruise

The Kelly clan was all here for Freedom Fest.



Tom Kelly and Ed Schaefer settle the score after a round at Luck Country Club

# CREATING MEMORIES WITH FAMILY,



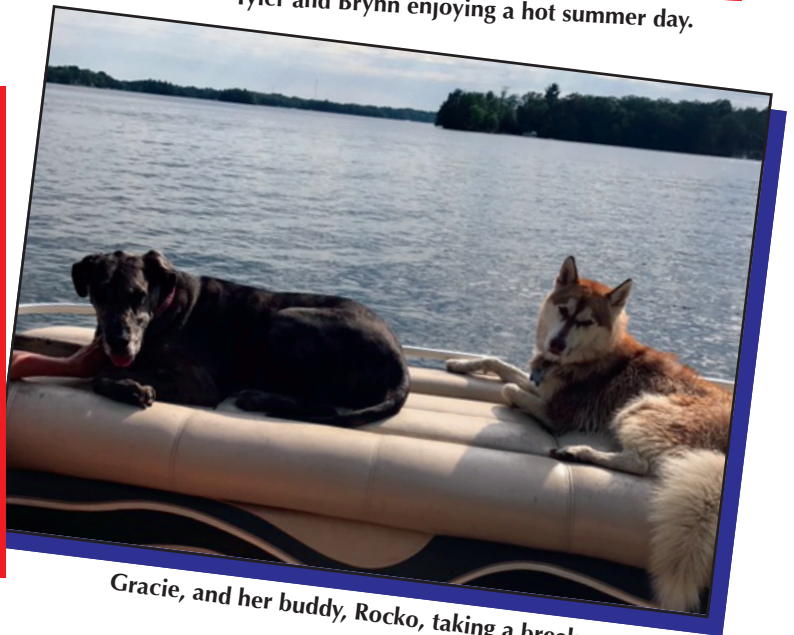
Brynn and her buddies enjoying the lake.



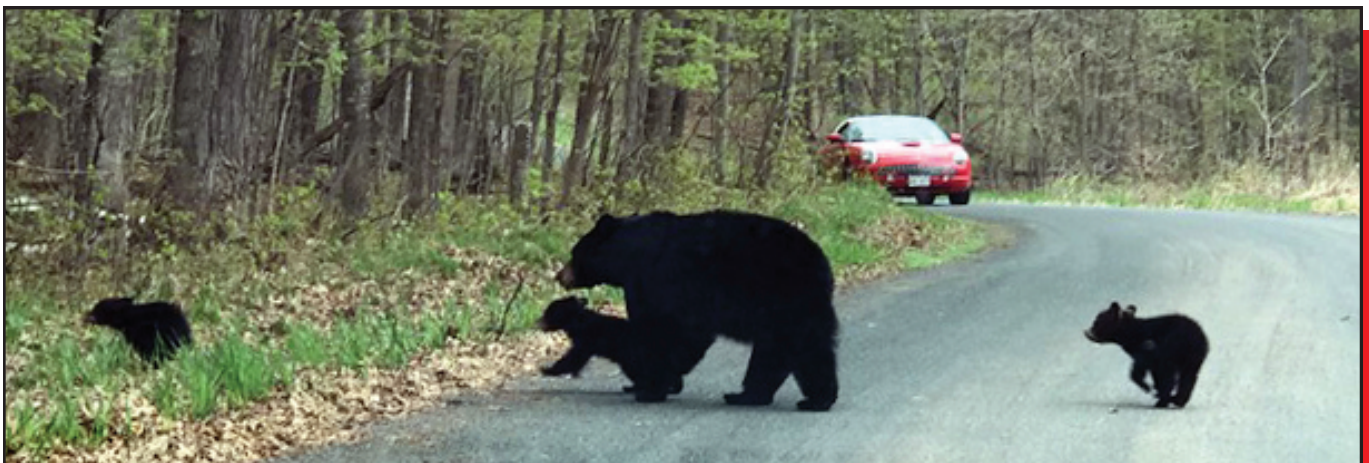
Tyler and Brynn enjoying a hot summer day.



Nothing beats Balsam Lake on a hot summer day.



Gracie, and her buddy, Rocko, taking a break.



A surprise round the next curve!

# FRIENDS AND CRITTERS ON BALSAM LAKE!



Pontoon girls: Mary Kelly, Coco Schaefer and Margaret Mork.



Jackson Tangley, Luke Appleby, Isabella Tangley, Marley Hughes, Megan Moskal and Olivia Tangley - "Freedom Fest is the Best."



Tyler feeding one of many friendly chipmunks.



A visiting black bear really enjoying the suet feeder.

**REMEMBER THE BOAT PARADE - SAT., JULY 6**

# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS IN BOSTON BAY



**Four generations of five neighboring families** gathered in August 2018 to celebrate five decades of ownership on Balsam Lake. It all started in 1968, when four neighboring properties in Boston Bay welcomed new owners: the Pattersons', Feirns', Arnolds' and Franson/Stephans'. They were joined on the north shore a few years later by the Karnuths'. About 75 family members gathered Aug. 4, 2018, for a day of fellowship, food and Balsam Lake stories. The evening capped off with a wonderful display of fireworks.



This was our family last year at Winterfest on Balsam Lake. No matter the season, nothing beats the fun our family has on Balsam Lake! Thank you Denny and Linda Moll!



Bonnie Bielecki's daughter Kim and her goldendoodle Ruby love time on Balsam Lake. They went for their first helicopter ride (Ruby the doodle included) last winter!

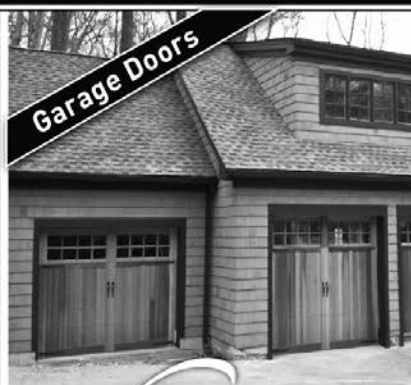


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# Pecan Pie

*In memory of Gertrude Nelton*

As Peter Nelton explained, his mother would prepare this pecan pie without a recipe for church funerals and special occasions. This is an estimate of her recipe and a tribute to her contribution.

Place baking sheet in oven and preheat to 350 degrees

Gently line a pie pan with hand-rolled dough or store-bought pie crusts.

Press edges up on the sides and set aside.

## Ingredients:

2-1/2 cups raw pecan pieces

1 pie dough crust, 9"

6 tablespoons unsalted butter; melted and cooled

1 cup light corn syrup

2 tsp. vanilla extract

3 large eggs, lightly beaten

1/2 tsp. salt

In a large bowl, whisk butter, corn syrup, brown sugar, vanilla. Add eggs and salt and whisk until even. Fold in pecans.

Pour/spread the mixture into the pie pan

Bake for 60-70 minutes with aluminum foil over the edges of the crust

Hint: Cool completely before chilling in a refrigerator.



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*The United States Department of Agriculture's map* identifies regions in relation to what plants will survive in the area. Zones are divided by 10 degree increments and use temperature to ascertain survivability.

**Wisconsin has three cold** hardiness zones: Zone 3 (Northwestern WI), Zone 4 (North, Central, Western WI) and Zone 5 (Southern and eastern WI up past Green Bay and Apostle Islands). Balsam Lake falls in the Zone 4 category, which has an abundance of trees, shrubs, and perennials that thrive and enhance our gardens.

**Are you looking for an attractive tall grass** to plant along your shore? Prairie cord grass (*Spartina pectinata*), grows in a tall, beautiful, arching clump. It spreads by rhizomes, making it an excellent choice for stabilizing soils along wet areas. This perennial becomes a golden burst of fall color every year.

**Read more at Gardening Know How:** Gardening In Zone 4: [www.gardeningknowhow.com/garden-how-to/gardening-by-zone](http://www.gardeningknowhow.com/garden-how-to/gardening-by-zone).



Tyler and Brynn mastering the art of paddleboarding.

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