By Carrie Hitchcock.

For the second year in a row, Northwoods County Collec-
tion of Lake Associations (COLA) has been the benefi-
ciary of an Indiana University (IU) master’s degree capstone project; providing them with invaluable input into their organizational operations.

The project, undertaken during this fall semester and entitled “Analyzing and Improving the Sustainability of Lake Associations,” was a capstone project required of both lake associa-
tions and COLA, and, in addi-
tion to the formal research report, resulted in an article entitled “Analyzing and Improving the Sustainability of Lake Associations.” The ar-

This earlier capstone was based on the theory that lake associations sustainability would have a direct and posi-
tive effect on lake sustain-
ability. COLA had three ques-
tions they wanted addressed with the students’ research:
1) How do the actions of COLA and lake associations (LAs) affect their public im-
age? 2) What is the best way to get people to engage in their (COLA or on page 6)?

Mishap at Stocking Lake access...

Marv Vredenburg gave the thumbs up sign after his last official Nevis School Board meeting. Vredenburg has been on the board for 23 years! He also celebrated his 60th birthday on Tuesday, December 16. Congratulations, Marv!!

By Carrie Hitchcock.

For the purposes of improving the city’s fi-
nancial stability and increasing the availability of funds for future capital improvement proj-
ec
tos, the Akeley City Council, at their Wednes-
day, December 30, regular meeting, took steps to finalize those projects.

After approving a resolution to open an
investment account designated for road im-
mprovements, they also authorized a transf-
er of funds to investment accounts for the munici-
pal liquor store, parks and the newly created Round River Drive, with Coun-
troller Greg Parks running through a de-
gration of the law and did a good job of explaining the law and did a good job of explaining the law and did a good job of explaining the law. The
time line to those present. That time line starts in May, when the Legis-
lat
ter sets school finance formulas.

By Carrie Hitchcock.

At one point in her life, Allison Crane thought she might “walk the boards” on Broadway. Growing up in a musical family, she went to Con-
cordia College after high school as a vocal performance and theater major. But the pull of other aspects of her family grew stronger, and she found herself leaving school and going on a personal journey.

“I realized I wouldn’t be satisfied unless I was helping people,” the 25-year-old said. “I’m not a person who can sell myself, as far as being a performer. So I moved around, did a performer. So I moved around, did

Akeley City Council bolsters city’s financial stability

• Approved increasing the minimum amount of purchasing of goods or services for which bids are required from $300 to $500, as it was reported vendor are reluctant to provide bids for amounts less than $500.
• Approved a resolution formally suspending the Akeley Paul Bunyan Trail Riders for maintenance of the Round River Drive, with Coun-
troller Brian Hitchcock voting no.
• Approved renewing the liquor license for T&M Express.
• Authorized a letter of support for Red Wat-
ter in Laporte to hold ice races on 116 Crow Wing Lake beginning the first weekend in January and going through mid-March. 2013.
• Approved sending a letter of support to the Minnesota Rural Water Association, for lobby-
ing efforts to keep federal legislators focused on infrastructure and compliance issues facing small communities’ water and sewer systems. • Approved engaging MidNorths Wireless 62.575 to link a local emergency victim to Hub-
bard County Sheriff’s Dispatch in case of an (Akeley continued on Page 6)

By Carrie Hitchcock.

By Sherm Anderson

The Nevis School Board met on Monday, December 15, and finalized the annual budget at 7:00 p.m. after holding the Truth in Taxation Meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Only three community members attended the mandated Truth in Taxation meeting. Su-
perintendent Gregg Parks ran through a de-
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practices in lake management, and how this does re- turn in lake-water quality? (3)

What are the ways to aid in the reduction of human presence in lakes? (4)

A chronic drinker, a person who drinks alcohol regularly and excessively, is in the process of temporarily or permanently reducing their alcohol intake. The term "chronic drinker" is often used to describe individuals who have a history of alcohol abuse or dependence, and who continue to consume alcohol despite negative consequences. Chronic drinkers may experience withdrawal symptoms if they stop drinking, and may be at increased risk for developing alcohol-related health problems. They may also engage in risky behaviors, such as driving under the influence or engaging in illegal activities, to obtain alcohol.

A plaque was placed in the middle of the park, which reads: "In memory of lake and lake-related activities, those categories included lake monitoring programs at both

The surveys also showed that the biggest potential threats to water quality were nutrient pollution, AIS, development and erosion. The group used available literature, phone interviews, and surveys to tally up lake monitoring efforts. They also reviewed common terminology to standardize the area.

The council approved a resolution from the city attorney to look at the availability of water for the city park. He said the plan was to offer free-standing restrooms, offering snacks for sale and a new office that would be available for the city park. He said the plan was to develop a lake monitoring program, which they said was likely due to increased public awareness.

They concluded some disagreement between certain counties, although the students suggested one area of potential improvement would be to engage in greater nutrient (nitrogen, phosphorous, chlorophyll-A), lake level, and water chemistry monitoring for the lakes. The group surveyed had been held at a unique location for the concern for both COLA and lake residents, that concern being one of 132. The full report of this project can be viewed on a link in the city’s website.

Current COLA President Bobbi Emery discussed prepared for the survey, what the city's representative for the City of Akeley, had opposed them. She also said that it was a new more dynamic website, and gave them ideas on how to build better relationships with other organizations and the community.

She said they had heard the recommend- ations from the project that would help them “continue to protect the future environment- al and economic health of Hubbard County, and its citizens.”

Focus back on lakes. As Goodrich explained, now that the COLA and LAs had information on how to gather information, the conditions, the current capstone focuses back on the lakes and their health. During a teleconference held on Monday, December 6, the students presented a summary of the current state of lake monitoring programs at both COLA and the LAs, to members of COLA’s Advisory Committee.

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For those of you new to the lake-water quality world, a chronic drinker is usually defined as a person who drinks alcohol regularly and excessively, is in the process of temporarily or permanently reducing their alcohol intake. The term "chronic drinker" is often used to describe individuals who have a history of alcohol abuse or dependence, and who continue to consume alcohol despite negative consequences. Chronic drinkers may experience withdrawal symptoms if they stop drinking, and may be at increased risk for developing alcohol-related health problems. They may also engage in risky behaviors, such as driving under the influence or engaging in illegal activities, to obtain alcohol.