

A resort for everyone

Sunset Pines Resort designed for the disabled and able vacationer

Local businessman Dale Pekovsek, owner of Dale's North Mound Tavern has had a few dreams, which so far he has been able to make come true. Now that not sound like such a hard idea for most people, but Dale is not like most people, Dale is a quadriplegic. This has not slowed him down it just presents him with a different set of challenges, which he overcomes.

Growing up in the Willard area was special to Dale. As a youth he enjoyed hunting, fishing, softball, and being with his friends. An accident at 17 changed that for Dale. Because of the accident Dale is now a quadriplegic, he left for Minneapolis to get therapy at the Courage Center, and he also attended North Hennepin Community College to study business administration. Missing the Willard area he moved back to fulfill his first opportunity. He bought the tavern where Dale's North Mound is now. If you have been there you know what a great place he has. Great food, and always a good time, no matter what time of year it is. Open all year Dale's has its



Disabled hunter Verlyn Noah after a successful hunt. These types of hunts are important, all should be able to enjoy the outdoors and what Wisconsin has to offer



Dale Petkovsek outside of his Sunset Pines Resort, which is designed for the disabled but can be enjoyed by all.

summer visitors who are visiting their cottages or in the winter from the snowmobilers who will drive many miles to stop at Dale's.

Dale's is also known for its outdoor spring concert, which brings many people for a day & night of fun and good music. This year's concert marked the fifth year that the concerts have taken place out at Dales with around 2,200 in attendance; they heard great music from The Vic Ferrairi Band, Gypsy Rose, and The Fairmont's.

Dale likes to keep busy; the idea of the resort with accommodations for the disabled came out of one of his other hobbies, hunting. Dale being an avid hunter before and after his accident has worked with others to promote hunting for the disabled. Last year Dale helped to setup one of 60 disabled hunts in the State, which are DNR approved. This special hunt takes place in the first week of October. This special hunt occurs because of Dale's neighbors and friends who donate there time and land to make this hunt possible. Last year 2,900 acres in the Willard area were made available to the disabled hunters, with everything evolving around Dale's North Mound Tavern. Because of this hunt and the need for enough lodging for the participants the idea for the resort evolved. Lodging for the disabled is unique and Dale knew what it takes to make things assessable and comfortable for

Team Work = The Cooperative Way

Students attend YLC to learn about cooperatives

Nine students representing schools from Clark Electric Cooperative's service area represented the cooperative at the annual Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) held at UW River Falls this past June. This event is a very important to the cooperatives throughout the state. It lets us teach to eager students about cooperatives and what they are all about.

Yes, eager students. The students who represent Clark Electric Cooperative and the other cooperatives who send students to the YLC are all young leaders. These are the youths who are involved in everything that they can be. Most of the students are all active in their local FFA (Future Farmers of America) or FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) programs at school. It's quite amazing when you sit down and listen to what they have done or plan on doing at their age.

Because these students are all leaders and eager to learn new and important information a busy schedule

was laid out for them for the three days and two nights while they were at the YLC. Last year's students who were elected to the Youth Board ran this year's program. The program is very successful in that the youths get quite a bit of knowledge on cooperative's and the cooperative spirit. This year Craig Hillier was back again to deliver his powerful messages on youth leadership, stretching their creativity and the value of cooperation. Craig has visited many Wisconsin schools delivering his messages, that why he's been invited back to the

YLC so many times, his messages are great and the kids like him and learn from him.

A highlight this year was a presentation by Blaise Winters, an 11-year veteran of the NFL. Blaise let the students know that obstacles can be overcome, that perseverance and determination will help them to overcome these obstacles. Blaise shared his personnel battles and how he overcame his obstacles.

Other events included starting and operating their



One of the Outward Bound Exercises for students; they all learn to work together to pick up the cup and poor the water into another cup; without a cooperative effort the task is impossible. With teamwork and the cooperative spirit they did it.

own cooperative. By doing this they hold meetings that help them learn the cooperative form of business. They discuss issues and elect a representative who will be on next year's youth board. Clark Electric Cooperative is always looking for interested youths to attend the Youth Leadership Congress; we encourage interested students to contact their counselors, FFA directors or FBLA advisors who have the information. Each spring through the REC News we announce this program so that we can have a great delegation to send.



Clark Electric Cooperative representatives at the YLC held at UW-River Falls. Front Row: Larissa Fildes, Kendall Liebzeit, Carlene Potaczek. Back Row: Lyndsey Volosek, Stephanie Mulderink, Shelly Schoen, Jill Hinrichsen, Christina Steinmetz, and Raelynn Burrington.

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everyone involved. Thus the idea of Sunset Pines Resort was established and created in a matter of a short time.

The cabin can sleep up to six comfortably with TV, VCR, stereo, and washer & dryer included. The master bedroom has a full size bed, which is open underneath for special lift devices that a guest may have or need to get in and out of bed. The master bathroom is totally designed for the disabled with a wheel chair accessible shower, and sink area that makes things convenient for the guest. The rest of the cabin is also tailored for wheel chairs and any guest really, the place has all hardwood floors and the doorways are all very wide made for ease of use. You also have a beautiful view of the 4.5-acre pond, which has the disabled fisherman in mind with access for fishing with two piers. The pond will be stocked with walleye, bass and bluegills. The outdoors trail system is made available and accessible for all, no matter what their limitations are, the trails wind throughout the property for all to enjoy nature's beauty. Other amenities include the availability to rent a pontoon boat and enjoy boating around Mead Lake, and while at Mead Lake their will be beach and water accessibility for wheel chairs so that the family can enjoy their time together.

The future holds more ideas for Dale. As Sunset Pines Resort grows Dale has more cabins in mind to accommodate more disabled and able vacationers in the Willard Area. To find out more on Sunset Pines Resort Contact Dale Petkovsek at W9210 Rock Creek Rd., Willard, WI 54493, 715 267-6889 or you can view and get great information on the web at www.sunsetpinesresort.com.



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A bathroom which is accessible for all is a major feature at Sunset Pines Resort, as is the rest of the cottage, from the hardwood floors to very wide door ways to accommodate wheel chairs.

Clark youth on 2002 YLC board

Planning for their future

Jill Hinrichsen from Abbotsford was elected to the Youth Leadership Congress (YLC) Board during this June's YLC gathering at UW-River Falls. Jill will be a Junior at Abbotsford High School when school starts up this fall.

Jill is very active in school and with her extracurricular activities; she belongs to both the FFA (Future Farmers of America) and FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) chapters in Abbotsford where she is Vice-President of both organizations. She is also a member of the National Honor Society.

One thing that stood out during Jill's stay at the YLC was the team building exercises that the participants took part in. Jill said, "I learned how to communicate in different ways, I wasn't able to talk and had to get a message to my teammates." Jill is looking forward to next year where she will help plan the 2002 YLC for students just like her.

Consider ETS this winter

Have comfort and affordability...

As winter is approaching many customers are wondering what their heating bills will be like this year? Know one knows what the price of gas will do this winter, but we do know that your electric rate will not be going up and out of sight like gas does. In fact if you compare your electric rate against your gas rate you will see how volatile gas can really be!

This winter why not consider adding an Electric Thermal Storage Unit – ETS to your home. ETS can replace existing baseboard electric heat or can be used as an independent heat source to take care of your family's comfort. ETS stores the electric heat energy to be used when needed. By utilizing one of Clark Electric

Cooperative's electric heating rates you can heat your home very cost effectively, while knowing that you are using a clean, safe and efficient way to heat your house. ETS units can have up to 16 hours of stored heat available. This is why they fit great into Clark Electric Cooperative's electric heat strategies. When we need to activate our load management system the ETS units have heat ready to fulfill your needs. ETS units also work great with our TOD (Time-of-Day) rate. The time of Day metering can control your ETS unit to turn off during the peak hours and charge only during the off-peak times, leaving you nothing to worry about except enjoying your nice warm home.

To provide the comfort small fans located inside the ETS unit distribute the heat throughout the room making the room very pleasant to live and sleep in. They are quiet and efficient, again making it great to be in any room that you want to enjoy and want to be comfortable in.

Contact Clark Electric Appliance & Satellite, Inc. next door to the Cooperative's office where they can show and explain to you what the ETS units have to offer. You can call Clark Electric Appliance & Satellite's Office at 715-267-6544 or toll free at 1-866-6544. Rita Sladich or John Koschak can help you in getting ETS installed in your house before winter takes its grip on us.



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