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EAGLE HERALD

Marinette Menominee

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2020

TWO SECTIONS

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Group campaigns for kayak launch

The project would be the 1st ADA compliant launch in county

By **ABBY KNIPFEL**
EagleHerald staff writer
aknipfel@eagleherald.com

PESHTIGO — A citizen group in Peshtigo has started work to get a new ADA compliant kayak launch on the Peshtigo River.

The new kayak launch will be the first ADA (American Disabilities Act) compliant kayak launch in the Marinette County area. This effort is being spearheaded by Peshtigo Chamber of Commerce President Tony O'Neill. He has organized a group, Wild Goose River Kayak Group, which is very active on Facebook.

"The plan for this new launch has been around the Parks Department for decades, but the project has always been overshadowed by something more important," O'Neill said.

O'Neill said of the group's motivation, "We believe in the Peshtigo Chamber of Commerce mission statement, to promote business,

tourism and growth for the whole community."

"Kayaking as a recreational activity has grown in popularity not only within our own community but also to those that visit and vacation in the area as well. The Peshtigo River provides kayakers with an abundance of beauty in a pleasant natural environment throughout their journeys," according to the group's mission statement.

The new launch site would serve not just tourists but also the Peshtigo School District.

"Most may not be aware that the Peshtigo School District offers their students a canoe/kayak training program where students are given the opportunity to launch and operate canoe/kayak along the Peshtigo River as part of a class instruction," says the group's mission statement.

According to O'Neill, the group has received nothing but support from the community. From



EagleHerald/Abby Knipfel

This spot on Emery Avenue in Peshtigo is the location where the Wild Goose River Kayak Group is campaigning to build an accessible kayak launch that is ADA compliant.

schools, businesses both large and small, and local government. "I haven't heard a single negative comment about the project," he said.

The company slated to install

the new kayak launch is EZ Dock. EZ Dock has installed several new launch systems in many northeast Wisconsin communities, most recently in Suamico in Brown County.

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“The plan for this new launch has been around the Parks Department for decades, but the project has always been overshadowed by something more important.”

Tony O'Neill
Peshtigo Chamber of Commerce president

The cost of the project as a whole is estimated to be in the range of \$27,000 to \$34,000. This estimate covers everything from area prep, signage, parking and the actual dock.

The group has found several grants from the DNR, Wisconsin Coastal Management, and the

See **LAUNCH, A3**



Midland Daily News via AP/Katy Kildee

Rosemary King, right, holds a sign as a few dozen people gather in front of the United States Post Office to protest recent changes to the USPS under new Postmaster General Louis DeJoy, Tuesday in Midland, Mich.

Dems summon postal leaders

■ Leaders brought in to testify on mail delays during emergency hearing

By **AAMER MADHANI** and **MATTHEW DALY**
The Associated Press

BEDMINSTER, N.J. — The Democratic-run House on Sunday demanded that leaders of the U.S. Postal Service testify at an emergency oversight hearing Aug. 24 on mail delays as concerns grow that the Trump White House is trying to undermine the agency during the coronavirus pandemic while states expand mail-in voting options for the November presidential election.

The House Oversight and Reform Committee said it wants to hear from new Postmaster General Louis DeJoy and from the chair of the Postal Service board of governors, Robert "Mike" Duncan. With heightened scrutiny of its operations, the agency is now requesting a temporary preselection rate increase, from mid-October through Christmas, although not for first-class letters.

The agency did not immediately respond to requests for comment about whether the two men would appear before the House committee. But it said Sunday it would stop removing its distinctive blue mailboxes through mid-November following complaints from customers and members of Congress that the collection boxes were being taken away.

"Given the recent customer concerns the Postal Service will postpone removing boxes for a period of 90 days while we evaluate our customers' concerns," said Postal Service spokeswoman Kimberly Frum.

The announcement comes as pressure increases on DeJoy, a major Republican donor and ally of the president who took control of the agency in June. DeJoy has pledged to modernize the money-losing agency to make it more efficient, and has eliminated most overtime for postal workers, imposed restrictions on transportation and reduced of the quantity and use of mail-processing equipment.

"The postmaster general and top Postal Service leader-

See **MAIL, A3**

Most eagles die from being hit by cars

■ Michigan study finds how the birds are threatened

By **KEITH MATHENY**
Detroit Free Press

DETROIT — America's iconic national bird, the bald eagle, has made an impressive comeback from its days as an endangered species. But its leading threats remain rooted in human activity, the most comprehensive study ever of bald eagle mortality in Michigan finds.

Researchers with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in conjunction with Michigan State University, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and others, reviewed a huge trove of bald eagle mortality data collected from DNR necropsies — surgical examinations of eagle carcasses to determine causes of death — from 1986 to 2017. Almost 1,500 eagles' causes of death were reviewed,

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“The bald eagle population in Michigan has made a tremendous comeback since the ban or phaseout of DDT and PCBs.”

Kendall Simon
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist

according to the Detroit Free Press.

The results: The leading killer of bald eagles was vehicular trauma — being hit by cars. Second on the list was lead poisoning, related to eagles ingesting lead ammunition fragments from hunter-shot animals, or lead sinkers from fishermen.

"The bald eagle population in Michigan has made a tremendous comeback since the ban or phaseout of DDT and PCBs," said U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Kendall

Simon, a lead author on the study.

DDT was a widely used synthetic pesticide from the 1940s until 1972, when the federal government banned its use over its impact on the environment and threats to human health. Polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, were primarily used as insulating fluids in heavy-duty electrical equipment in power plants, industries, and large buildings from the late 1920s until the

See **EAGLES, A3**

People wary of census door knockers

By **MIKE SCHNEIDER**
The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Out on her first day of knocking on doors in the San Francisco Bay Area, the census taker had limited success getting people to answer the questions on the 2020 census.

Residents at only two homes answered all the questions about how many people lived there, what their relationships were and their sex, age, race and whether they're Hispanic. No one was home at three households, residents at two homes wouldn't give her the time of day, and the rest only answered some questions.

Workers on the frontlines of the massive effort trying to count everyone in the U.S. have faced unprecedented obstacles in the last phase of the 2020 census: people wary of talking to strangers in a pandemic and distrustful of government; a shortened schedule; administrative snafus, and nagging concerns about



The Associated Press

A census taker knocks on the door of a residence Tuesday in Winter Park, Fla. A half-million census takers head out en masse this week to knock on the doors of households that haven't yet responded to the 2020 census.

the quality of the protective equipment they've received.

The California census taker and others interviewed by The Associated Press asked not to be identified for fear of losing their

jobs — they are prohibited by the bureau from talking to reporters. Up to a half million census takers started hitting the streets last week to knock on the doors of around 56 million homes

that haven't yet responded to the 2020 census. The AP talked to two census takers in California, two in Alaska and one each in Florida and

See **CENSUS, A3**

Good morning,
Mike Klein!

Thank you for subscribing to the EagleHerald



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DEATHS

Greene, Sandra E.
Kurz, Nancy J.

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TODAY: Mostly sunny

HIGH: 77 **LOW:** 54

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