



About Us

News of the North Net, Inc. is an independent online news site dedicated to covering issues that are important to the greater Northwoods of Wisconsin.

Our goal is to provide a service to the community by increasing the knowledge and understanding of issues important to the residents of the Northwoods. We will accomplish this by delivering nonpartisan, reliable and in depth reporting on the local government, economy, schools and environment. We will encourage a variety of community voices and viewpoints to participate in the form of columns, blogs and letters to the editor.

News of the North Net, Inc. is a non-profit corporation with a board of directors. The corporation has 501(c)3 status with the Internal Revenue Service.

Mission Statement

News of the North Net will strive to deliver accurate, timely news vital for better understanding and participating in the communities and governments of the greater Northwoods of Wisconsin.

News of the North Net will strive to inspire excellence in the community by providing the highest level of reporting and writing, while maintaining good taste, respectfulness and impartiality.

News of the North Net will include a mosaic of Northwoods voices as columnists, reporters and bloggers to represent the variety of concerns, interests and passions found among Northwoods citizens. It will encourage and inspire all contributors, through its example, to adhere to the highest standards of journalistic excellence.

A variety of viewpoints and opinions is encouraged. However, the viewpoints and opinions expressed by the contributors to this site do not necessarily reflect those of the NNN staff and board of directors.

Staff:



Sue Couture serves as the volunteer General Manager of News of the North Net. She has an extensive background in business management, bookkeeping and private school development. Serving the local community runs in her family which has roots in St. Germain, WI for more than 80 years. Sue works full-time as the Office Manager of Lake Forest Resort & Club in Eagle River. Over the past 23 years, she has coordinated volunteer efforts on local, state and national fronts. Born in Blue Island, IL, and reared on the Southside of Chicago, Sue has lived in IL, AZ, OR, AK and MT, travelled to almost all of the 50 states, plus abroad, gaining vast experiences along the way. She has resided in the Northwoods since 1996 with her husband, Joe, who is Editor of News of the North Net.



Joe Costanza, Editor of News of the North Net has been working in print, broadcast and corporate media for more than 30 years as an editor, reporter, columnist-commentator, and freelance journalist. His journalism career includes positions as News Editor at the Dow Jones News Service in New York City, Business Editor and Page One Editor of *The Arizona Republic/Phoenix Gazette*, freelance reporter for the *Vilas County News-Review*, reporter for *The Rhinelander Daily News*, and News Director at radio stations WRJO in Eagle River and B93 in Rhinelander. Joe spent 4 years working for Motorola, Inc. in its Semiconductor Products Sector of Phoenix, AZ and Austin, TX as the Communications Manager of the biweekly employee publication, *SPS Today*. A native of New York City, Joe served in the U.S. Navy as a Radioman and attended C.W. Post University in Brookville, NY.



Jackie Cody, Sponsorship & Advertising Representative of NewsOftheNorth.Net, is a Rhinelander native who has many passions, including advocating for a healthy Rhinelander community, as well as the larger common good in society, and sharing the joys of scrapping and stamping, traveling and other life-enhancing arts. She brings her creativity and organizational skills learned from teaching in the School District of Rhinelander for 34 years to her position with NewsOftheNorth.Net.



Sheryl Puracchio, serves as the volunteer Resource & Development Director of NewsOftheNorth.Net. She is a management professional with strategic planning and operational expertise. Sheryl has held key positions in business, government, school districts, faith-based, and social service organizations. She has over 20 years of training and experience in resource building, and as a newspaper columnist in the Chicago area. Sheryl is a frequent Northwoods visitor and never ceases to be transformed by its beauty and tranquility.

Board Members:



Ellen Burgan, mother of two teenagers and wife to Ray for 20 years, moved to and fell in love with the Northwoods in 2003. She has more than 20 years of experience working in the computer technology field, and currently works in the Internet marketing department at Drs. Foster and Smith. Ellen and Ray are local business owners of Enterprise Wood Products where Ellen designs and maintains the business website. The beach, dark chocolate, blogging, friends and family time are some of her greatest passions.



Pete Cody currently owns and operates a lawn care business. Prior to this venture he was employed by the Wisconsin DNR and retired after 33 years of service. Pete was a union activist for 32 years. He held various union leadership positions, including 5½ years as president of the Wisconsin State Employees Union.



Kim Johnson has lived in Rhinelander most of her life and has raised her two teenagers here. A graduate of Rhinelander High school and UW STOUT, she co-owns and operates Nosser's Stamp and Scrap. Right after college, Kim worked for General Mills specializing in marketing in four Midwestern states. Here in Rhinelander she has taken local teenagers on four different servant trips and has maintained a website for her store since April of 2004.



Lisa Kuczarski has been a Northwoods resident for most of her life. She spent her college years studying Journalism at UW-Madison and has a passion for reading and writing. Kuczarski works in the city attorney/administrator's office

in Rhinelander. She is a governing council member for the local charter elementary school and is chief elections inspector for her district. Other than her three children, husband, golden retriever and two cats, Kuczarski is kept busy by promoting science and math education for girls, learning about different cultures and enjoying ethnic cuisine.



Sally Latimer has a doctorate in educational leadership. She retired to the Rhinelander area in June 2007 after having served as assistant superintendent for the Roseville area schools near Minneapolis. She presents college courses and seminars on the following topics: The Future of Community Education, Courage: The Backbone of Leadership, Leadership for the Future, Group Process, Legislation: Getting to the Table, Communication Conflict and Decision Making, and Administration of Community Education. She volunteers as the organization committee chairperson for Rhinelander's Main Street program, Downtown Rhinelander, Inc.



Ron Reupert was born in Chicago, and grew up in Northbrook, Ill. He attended college in Chicago and Champaign, Ill., where he received his doctorate in veterinary medicine. He moved to Rhinelander in 1978 and worked with Dr. David Boyd until 1994 when he went out on his own at The Animal Health Care Center-North. He is an avid fly fisherman and upland bird hunter and enjoys kayaking and traveling to new places. He plans to retire in the Rhinelander area and eventually work part-time and do local volunteer work.

Special Consultants:



Ruth Sproull, Special Consultant, began her first career writing advertising for a Cincinnati, Ohio department store and several advertising agencies in Cincinnati and Milan, Italy, after graduating from Smith College with a degree in art history in 1976. She then went on to found two companies. She was a freelance reporter for a weekly newspaper in the Northwoods before collaborating with Sarah Juon to start NewsOfTheNorth.Net.



Kate Zambon, Special Consultant, is a Rhinelander native who has studied and worked in different parts of the country and world. After graduating from Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, NY, in 2007 with a degree in Italian and German Studies, she spent a year in Berlin, Germany, on a Fulbright Fellowship. Kate loves cultural studies and languages and writing about cross-cultural experiences. Kate was site design editor for NN.N for a year but has now returned to school to pursue an advanced degree in Journalism and Mass Communication Studies.