

## SOCIAL SNAPSHOT



### TOP STORIES

From LakeForestLeader.com as of Sept. 28

1. Lake Bluff youngster offers free lemonade over Labor Day weekend
2. Lake Forest City Council: Elawa Farm Foundation to maintain new greenhouse
3. Lake Forest-based 'Ordinary People' adapted to stage
4. Woodlands Academy dedicates newly expanded campus in Lake Forest
5. BMW Championship ends with Jason Day earning No. 1 position

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Longstanding Lake Forest hot dog joint The Left Bank posted this picture on Sept. 21 of its decorations in honor of Lake Forest High School's homecoming week.

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Students and faculty grab yellow and white cookies in honor of Ferry Hall Day! Happy 146th anniversary!

@LFAACAD, Lake Forest Academy tweeted this on Sept. 22 in honor of the school's 146th anniversary day.

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### FROM THE EDITOR

## May the autumnal traditions begin



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EDITOR

It's time to break out the flannel shirts and any manner of pumpkin-flavored food and drinks, y'all. The autumnal equinox is upon us, whether we like it or not.

Although I love pumpkin spice lattes, pumpkin beer and wearing sweaters as much as the next person, this year I'm a little wary of what seems to be everyone's favorite season. It feels like this summer was just taking off before the days started to get shorter and the nights cooler.

Fall being here already means that winter is just around the corner, and soon I can look forward to 0-degree-high days and wading through snow drifts up to my waist. I'm already dreading the biggest pain that winter represents for me: digging out and de-icing my Ford Explorer after a bad snowstorm. I didn't even know that car doors freezing shut was something that could happen until I was a senior in college.

Is seasonal change anxiety a real thing? Because I think I have it.

Anyway, I don't want to be that person who hates on seasons. I should focus on the positive. First, fall is, hands down, the most gorgeous time of the year. No matter how many years I've spent up here in the Chicago area, it always amazes me to see the stunningly bright orange and

yellow leaves everywhere every fall, and I'm looking forward to the feeling of awe and wonder I have for nature returning once again.

Plus, I do really love pumpkin, especially pumpkin pie. In fact, with fall comes a now six-year-long tradition for me and my college friends: our annual baking-pumpkin-pie-from-scratch party.

It all started when, my sophomore year of college, my friend Shyam stole a pumpkin from outside one of the sorority houses on campus that was probably part of that sorority's Halloween decorations. (Note: I did not approve of this, and *The Leader* does not endorse stealing). He also loves pie, and excitedly called me to help him bake a pumpkin pie from scratch, using the illegally retrieved pumpkin in question.

I agreed, of course, and six hours spent in a kitchen later, I learned two things: you should only bake a pumpkin pie from scratch if you have a lot of time on your hands, and if you have a good knife and/or strong arms. Slicing open a pumpkin is no joke.

The pie turned out to be delicious, though, and it probably tasted better than any other pumpkin pie we would've made using canned pumpkin, just because we worked so hard at baking it.

Since that fateful autumn night, Shyam, my girlfriend Erin and I have continued our baking pumpkin pie from scratch tradition every year, and it's become a party. We invite all our friends over, put on some tunes, and have a blast cutting up the pumpkin, boiling the pieces, pureeing

them, and making the crust. And in the end we share the pie together, with plenty of whipped cream.

The tradition has become so important to us that even when I was away from Northwestern for my journalism residency fall quarter my senior year, Shyam put a pumpkin in his freezer so it would be fresh when I returned to campus. And last year, we even continued the tradition in Cleveland, where Shyam is currently attending medical school.

Yes, I am the kind of person who will embark on a road trip to Ohio over a weekend just to bake pumpkin pie with my friends. Maybe I love fall more than I think.

We don't know what will happen this year — I'm trying to make Shyam ditch school to hang out with us and bake — but I'm sure that either way, it'll be a good time.

Autumnal traditions like mine are strong in Lake Forest and Lake Bluff, and you can read all about a new one — Lake Bluff's inaugural Oktoberfest — on Page 19 of this issue. I can't wait to cover the other events going on in town this fall — from the Pumpkin Chase to Pumpkin Fest, and everything in between.

Whether you're a pumpkin spice latte or pumpkin beer type of person, or hate everything pumpkin-flavored — or, if you're like me, you're nervous about winter rearing its icy head — there's something for everybody going on in Lake Forest and Lake Bluff this fall. You just have to find it. Or even bake it.

### GO FIGURE

An intriguing number from this week's edition

# 560

The square footage of the new greenhouse that will be built on Elawa Farm. The Elawa Farm Foundation will maintain the greenhouse's exterior and interior. Story on Page 4.

### THE LAKE FOREST LEADER

#### SOUND OFF POLICY

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