

For summer sipping, try shandies and radlers

Summer is certainly my favorite time of the year in northern Minnesota. After the wet June, we're enjoying its prime time right now, even the lake is throwing record-high water temperatures at us.

Barbecues, golfing, fishing, evening walks, hanging out at the beach, hiking, camping, Wade Stadium summer nights and many more. All these activities are made even better if you can enjoy a beer of two while outdoors.

There is an abundant selection of beers that are perfect for summer enjoyment.

It's a time for lighter beers — sessionable, quaffable beers that make whatever activity you are engaged in even more fun without the concerns of heavy-bodied flavors or too much alcohol to be able to enjoy a few.

I'm going to highlight a few beer styles starting with and especially shandies and radlers.

These hybrid beers highlight the mixture of fruit juices or sodas with light ales or lagers.

The German version of "radler" was invented in Munich in 1922 when a tavern owner swarmed with bicyclists realized he did not have enough beer to slake their thirst. He cut the lager beer he sold with lemon soda and thus the radler was born. The German versions also highlight grapefruit juice or soda at a 50/50 mix.

Radlers are staple summer tipples in all of Germany. The Austrians make a "russ," which uses hefeweizen



A grapefruit radler at Waldmann Brewing in St. Paul.

Jess Fleming / Pioneer Press



DAVE HOOPS

(unfiltered wheat ale) with lemon soda.

Next, we highlight the "shandy," a British invention from 1869 that started by mixing light ale with ginger ale. This has evolved into the classic shandy: one part light ale and one part fresh lemonade. These beers are tremendous for warm-weather drinking. Low alcohol, a beer base for some body and maltiness and the crisp tart fruit snap, mixed and carbonated, these are the most refreshing options I can recommend.

Locally, many of our breweries including mine

offer these beers. Leinenkugel's Summer Shandy, Stiegl from Austria and Pauliner from Germany offer very good, packaged versions available locally.

Many of my other go-to beers this time of year include light lagers, wheat beers, fruit-based beers and session ales.

These beers are all lower in alcohol, which matters when you're out in the sun. Also, they are low in hops so they will not get sun-stuck and taste skunky due to the sunlight reacting with the high hop loads in IPAs and pale ales. Light beers, whether American-style macro lagers or Mexican imports, are also very good for summer-time conditions.

Fruit-based wheat beers like raspberry wheat and apricot wheat are easy to find here in the Twin Ports and are

great even if you're not a big beer person as they have easy-drinking fruity notes that remove the beer flavors that some don't care for.

I hope you are all enjoying the summer and these suggestions open the doors, the tent flaps and the dock gates to enjoying some new beers.

Dave Hoops, who lives and works in Duluth, is a veteran brewer and beer judge. Have a beer-related question for Dave? Email him at dave@hoopsbrewing.com or the News Tribune at lifestyle@duluthnews.com.

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BUDGET

CONTINUED FROM A1

the airport funds. Unlike Fargo, which is also proposing to reduce its airport levy, it represents savings in taxes rather than more money being sent to the city's general fund.

The 2025 value of a mill has increased an estimated 6.18% over 2024, from \$277,120 to \$294,256 in the city of Grand Forks. The mill value increase is being driven mostly by the increase of property values in the city, with the median home increasing value by more than 50% in a decade. A mill, or rather the mill levy, is the multiplier used to calculate what is owed in property taxes and is determined by dividing the property tax levy revenue needed by the total taxable value in a taxing district. The mill levy is then multiplied by the taxable value of a property to determine the amount owed.

The city is proposing a 4% increase in city utility bills, roughly \$3.54 a month for the average user, and no longer absorbing credit card fees for transactions. The preliminary budget also includes a 5.72% salary step increase and cost-of-living adjustment for city employees, an additional floating holiday and a more competitive vacation accrual schedule.

Additionally, the council approved switching the city's health insurance plan to HealthPartners, a move that keeps insurance costs flat. The switch also meant a higher mill levy reduction, as the city was projecting an increase in insurance costs.

The council also discussed ending the proposal to allow the Grand Forks Children's Museum to be located near the Alerus Center as part of the new Altru Indoor

Sparks and Aquatic Center's development. The council voted to allow the talks to continue and not end the idea.

Between now and Sept. 16, the city will send the preliminary budget information to the county auditor, who then sends out notices with an estimated tax bill, including the state's \$500 property tax credit.

In other news, the council:

- Temporarily recessed the meeting after public comment. Shaun Beauclair went over his allotted five minutes and refused to move aside to allow other speakers and the council meeting to progress. Beauclair said that the city needs to do more about the land still owned by Fufeng, a company that attempted to build a corn mill here before it was shut down by the council, following much community debate. The city likely does not have much it can do as the proposed remedy of forcing a sale is a power vested in the North Dakota attorney general, not with the city, county or Grand Forks County State's Attorney Haley Wamstad. Council member Tricia Berg said that she reached out to Fufeng to learn more about the company's plans for the site, but had not gotten a response.
- Passed changes in downtown parking, making many of the all-day, on-street parking spaces between DeMers and University Avenues to two-hour parking zones. The city hopes to better serve the customer parking needs of businesses as the area sees more development.
- Presented the Alexander Griggs Award to Greg Vettel. The award recognizes efforts to preserve Grand Forks' history and is named after the founder of the city, Alexander Griggs.

WALZ CONTINUED FROM A1

Walz was a relative unknown nationally until the Harris "veepstakes" heated up, but his profile has since surged. A popular member of Congress, he reportedly had the backing of powerful former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who was instrumental in persuading Biden to leave the race.

Harris and Walz will face Trump and Vance, also a military veteran from the Midwest, in a Nov. 5 election.

Stumping for Harris, sometimes in a camouflage baseball hat and T-shirt, Walz has attacked Trump and Vance as "weird," a catchy insult that has been picked up by the Harris campaign, social media and Democratic activists.

A 'unicorn'
Walz gave the nascent Harris campaign the new attack line in a late July interview: "These are weird people on the other side. They want to take books away. They want to be in your exam room," referring to book bans and women's reproductive consultations with doctors.

Walz has also attacked the claims by Trump and Vance of having middle-class credentials.

"They keep talking about the middle class. A robber baron real estate guy and a venture capitalist trying to tell us they understand who we are? They don't know who we are," Walz said in an MSNBC interview.

That approach has struck a chord with the young voters Harris needs to reengage. David Hogg, the co-founder of the gun safety group March for Our Lives, described him as a "great communicator."

Walz is "somewhat of a

unicorn," said Ryan Dawkins, a political science professor at Minnesota's Carleton College — a man born in a small town in rural Nebraska capable of conveying Harris' message to core Democratic voters, and those that the party has failed to reach in recent years.

Dawkins praised his ability to connect with rural voters. It is a group the Biden administration has tried to reach with infrastructure spending and other pragmatic policies, but with little show of messaging success so far.

In the 2016 election, Trump won 59% of rural voters; in 2020 that number rose to 65% even though Trump lost the election, according to Pew Research.

In the 2022 governor's race, Walz won with 52.27% to his Republican opponent's 44.61%, although swaths of rural Minnesota voted for the opponent.

Not everyone a fan
Not every legislator in Minnesota is rooting for a Harris-Walz ticket. Minnesota Sen. Steve Drazkowski, R-Mazeppa, said if Democrats want to win the White House again, Harris should pick a moderate from the party.

"They need to pick a moderate for Kamala Harris, who is the most far-left candidate they've put forward ever," Drazkowski said. "Tim Walz is the same."

Drazkowski said Walz pushes the same "cultural Marxism, full-on government dependency" policies as Harris. For example, he said Walz supported the "defund the police" movement and supported criminals over victims like Harris did after the death of George Floyd in 2020.

"If she wants to have a viable campaign, it'd be



Tim Evans for MPR News

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz talks to media at a DFL event to energize and organize canvassers in St. Paul on July 27.

smart to pick someone who isn't as radical and wild as she is," Drazkowski said.

That said, the Republican said he hopes Walz does make it on the Democratic ticket if for no other reason than the national media would give Walz the type of scrutiny Drazkowski said, he has yet to face from the media in Minnesota.

"His track record is very far left here in the state, and he's never had to answer for what he's done to the state and its people," Drazkowski said. David Hann, the chairman of the GOP in Minnesota, said picking Walz could signal a lack of confidence the Democrats have Minnesota in the bag for the presidential election.

"I've talked to a number of Republicans who are interested in voting against him," Hann said of Walz. "He's been the most partisan governor

in memory. He campaigned to return the surplus, then he spent it all and raised taxes another \$10 billion."

He added that the usually nonpartisan business community in Minnesota has united against Walz.

"He's been a unifier for Republicans and independents frankly who want to see a strong commitment to public safety and education," Hann said.

Good for Minnesota
Hann's counterpart with the DFL, Chairman Ken Martin, sees things differently when talking about a two-term governor who has done nothing but win elections in Minnesota.

"The entire country is about to see why their friends from Minnesota can't stop bragging about Gov. Walz," Martin said. "By picking a servant leader born and raised in a small town who has dedicated his career to protecting freedoms and

lifting up working families, Vice President Harris has chosen the perfect foil for JD Vance and his politics of resentment."

Martin said that Walz has helped build a model for how Democrats in Minnesota and across the nation can win elections and improve people's lives.

"We could not be more excited to help bring the Minnesota magic to this campaign and to put Kamala Harris and Tim Walz in the White

House," Martin said. And while Republicans are touting Vance as an everyman icon, Boldon said that's a better description for Walz.

"His background, having been a teacher, a veteran — he served in Congress," she said. "His background makes him relatable to people, but will be useful in the role as a vice president."

Reporting from Reuters News Service was used in this story.

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