

Fiskars, Alliant Lead Corporate Donors Town of Merrimac continues to seek donations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Information:

- **Tim McCumber, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Merrimac: 608-643-6332**

(MERRIMAC, WI) – Fiskars Brands, Inc. and Alliant Energy have made considerable donations to the Town of Merrimac in recent days to assist the fundraising effort to pay for the Clingman Property purchased in November 2003. The property has been acquired by the Town for conservation and park space.

Jeff Powell, President of Fiskars in Sauk Prairie, WI presented the Town with a donation of \$2,000.00, while Alliant Energy donated \$1,000.00. Joe Shefchek, Chief Environmental Officer, stated, "Alliant Energy is dedicated to improving the recreational opportunities around Lake Wisconsin and we salute the Town of Merrimac for going forward with plans to create a park along this lakefront property."

Last April, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) purchased the other half of the Clingman property. The two properties together create a recreational area that is currently a 12-acre site with nearly ½ mile of undeveloped shore land. With the disposition of the Badger Army Ammunition Plant (BAAP) Pump House property by the United States Army the near future, the DNR hopes into incorporate that adjacent property into the park as well.

The Town received a \$195,000 Lake Protection Grant from the DNR and has raised a little over \$42,000 in private donations. The town is still seeking to raise an additional \$23,000 to cover the \$260,000 cost of the property.

The town plans to work out an arrangement with the DNR to manage the property along with the other lands the DNR has acquired next door. Some of the early vision for the park shows the town's portion mainly being used for fishing access, hiking trails and nature observation points. When Hwy. 78 is abandoned, it is possible the abandoned stretch along the bay could be utilized for handicapped fishing. The DNR also has a long range vision of providing day camping sites and possibly boat access on its portion. Throughout the bay, the DNR has also budgeted for improving the fish habitat with off shore reefs and fish cribs. DNR officials are cautious about their future plans as these projects take funding and might not be able to happen for several years.

People interested in donating money to this project can send it to the "Town of Merrimac Clingman Fund" and mail it to: Town of Merrimac, Attn: Tim McCumber, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer, P.O. Box 115, Merrimac, WI 53561. McCumber is also available to speak to area groups or business and to answer any inquiries about the project. He can be contacted at (608) 643-6332 or by email at mccumber@shopstop.net. You can also find more information about the park at <http://www.tn.merrimac.wi.gov>

DONATIONS RECEIVED BY THE TOWN OF MERRIMAC AS OF DECEMBER 22, 2003:

Robert & Dolores Bahr	\$10.00
Micheal & Heidi Gendusa	\$50.00
Sauk County Sportsmen's Alliance	\$500.00
Roxbury Valley Trap Club	\$500.00
Walleye North America	\$2,000.00
Wisconsin River Sportsmen's Club	\$500.00
Richard & Nancy Grant	\$500.00
Spring Green Rod & Gun Club	\$500.00
North Freedom Rod & Gun Club	\$50.00
Paul & Phyllis Endres	\$50.00
Rotary Club of Sauk Prairie	\$500.00
Merrimac Conservation Club	\$500.00
In Memoriam of Edward W. Buss	\$500.00
Bart & Char Olson Foundation	\$10,000.00
Philip Miller	\$500.00
Roger Spear, Sr. Memorial	\$500.00
Sauk Prairie Conservation Alliance	\$100.00
James & Judith Koym	\$500.00
Glacier Valley Gobblers	\$2,000.00
Jaycees of Wisconsin Foundation	\$250.00
Evan & Joanne Clingman	\$10,000.00
WI DNR Lake Protection Grant	\$191,000.00
WI DNR Lake Protection Grant	\$4,000.00
Summer Oaks Condo Assn.	\$500.00
Roger & Cynthia Shanks	\$500.00
Eileen Luetscher	\$15.00
Jeffrey & Bonnie Little	\$50.00
Barbara Ostrowski	\$200.00
H.L. Shands Memorial	\$500.00
Robert Fitzsimmons	\$100.00
Harry & Joan Larsen	\$50.00
Gerald & Jill Sielaff	\$50.00
James & Rose Marie Abbey	\$50.00
Tracy Soans Shea	\$75.00
Melvin & Elsie Sanford	\$50.00
Stanley R. Saxer	\$250.00
John E. Kassner	\$100.00
Otto & Eleanore Osterland	\$10.00
John E & Anne Short	\$100.00
McManus Family	\$500.00
Doc. G. Boyd	\$500.00
Dr. Paul Malen	\$100.00
Verlyn & Beverly Erickson	\$50.00
Gilbert & Mary Sullivan	\$1,000.00
Dick & Kathy Anderson	\$500.00

Lester & Frances Wegrzynski	\$250.00
Anne & Shea Dieter	\$50.00
Dr. Thomas & Carol Kratochwill	\$50.00
Marvin & Lillian Jacobson Memorial	\$500.00
Judy Ashford	\$500.00
Ronald & Anita Benn	\$25.00
James & Phyllis Wiederhoeft	\$50.00
Mary Yeaker & Virginia Metcalf	\$100.00
Ron & Andrea Grosse	\$1,000.00
Meridian Laboratory	\$100.00
Rose Mary Sorenson	\$100.00
Kurtis & Sharon Kindschi	\$25.00
Eugene & Jene Roark	\$25.00
Tim & Marilyn Healy	\$30.00
Susan Puccio	\$100.00
Robert & Margaret Tadder	\$100.00
Barbara Ann Gleason Memorial	\$1,000.00
Alliant Energy	\$1,000.00
Fiskars Brands, Inc.	\$2,000.00