

The Independent-Register

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Apfelbaum lays out plans for golf course purchase

By Ryan Broege
EDITOR

Steve Apfelbaum is President and CEO of Applied Ecological Services, and also heads the Southern Wisconsin Land Conservancy, a group that recently purchased the "Front 9" at Decatur Lake Golf Course.

Apfelbaum said the conservancy is made up of five founding members, and purchased the portion of the golf course this spring. Apfelbaum said the consultancy's work focuses on working "with private and public landowners to help ensure specific lands meet the aspirations and conservation plans of those landowners."

Apfelbaum said the purchase of the golf course is the conservancy's first ever project, and was formed to purchase the front 9 portion of the course.

Since forming the group, the

SWLC have also started working with the owner of a woodland in Brodhead who does not wish to see it subdivided and developed by the heirs.

The SWLC's plans for the golf course include restoring the land to its natural state as an "Oak Savanna" space, and turn the land into a public conservation park. The group is also working to convert the clubhouse into a public space, including an educational space.

Restoring the golf course

On the land itself, Apfelbaum said the group has its work cut out for them, but it is something his firm, Applied Ecological Services, has done "12,000 to 15,000 times" at work sites around the world. Apfelbaum said the project will employ "wonderful land survey" records from the 1840s that give a "good clue" to the scientists on the Conser-

vancy.

To restore the course itself, the lawns will be converted into a cover crop; that process will begin by killing the lawns and immediately planting a cover crop to stabilize the soils. Next, a no-till drill will populate the land with native wetland, prairie and savanna species.

Apfelbaum said the group will be expanding on the present crop of trees at the site, but more importantly, what's under the trees. He said a diverse group of native wildflowers will be planted beneath the trees. Herbicide use will be halted after the initial kill of the lawn, and any invasive weed species will be treated individually.

Apfelbaum said the Conservancy has to decide what public uses will be allowed at the space, but their intention is to make the land a public park.

Apfelbaum said Magnolia Bluff Park hosts a beautiful oak savanna, while there are numerous other examples on private property.

"We came in with the focus of protecting, conserving and restoring," Apfelbaum said. "It is our ambition to make this avail to public. We're not trying to supplant what's happened with the loss of a golf course; we're hoping to supplement, not supplant, other closed businesses."

Apfelbaum also said the group will explore venue opportunities at the clubhouse.

What's ahead

Apfelbaum said he hopes to work with the group working to restore the Pearl Island Recreational Corridor, and other local stakeholders.

"We're looking for partners, and absolutely looking for ways to get this project done," Apfelbaum said.

Apfelbaum said the SWLC's funding has so far come from interested local parties, two of them with 6 or 7 generations in the area.

Apfelbaum said the group will be fundraising to improve the clubhouse that has fallen into disrepair, and other modifications around the golf course so it can be more useful "as a community venue."

Apfelbaum said the group does not know what those specific changes will be, but the group is bringing a world-class architect in late June to assess the project.

Apfelbaum said that while the project is private, the group is soliciting input from anyone interested in contributing. "I would be delighted to meet with folks, especially with people interested in committed to helping, and we're really interested in people with ideas and people committed to helping."

Council purchases former Fitness Center for \$435,000

By Ryan Broege
EDITOR

The Brodhead City Council moved ahead with its plans for renovating the former Fitness Center at 1803 23rd St. by bringing a close to months of negotiations between retired local dentist Dr. Julio Rodriguez and the city's purchasing agent.

The price was long held confidential, but the final price agreed upon by the two sides was announced at last Monday night's meeting - \$435,721.71.

The purchase will include an approximately one-acre parcel that would be used for a parking lot for the Senior Community Center.

The Council also voted to ignore an attempt by mayoral candidate Tim Stocks to bring a direct legislative resolution to the council, that would have had the council assign the Senior Center committee to pursue three other viable alternatives to the Rodriguez building. The petition, which collected a couple hundred signatures in support, also directed the city to use particular language on the November referendum to advise the city to do nothing on the project.

City Attorney Mark Schroeder said the effort fell under an administrative, rather than legislative, purpose, and there fore the city was not bound to take it under advisement. The city council voted 6-1 to continue and ignore the direct legislative effort. Allen Bruce cast the lone vote against, as was the case when the city approved a variety of measures tied to the Senior Community Center.

In an interview after the meeting, Bruce said while he was open to the idea of a Senior Community Center, he was unsure the timing was right on this project. He also said his votes reflect what he has heard from constituents.

Moving forward with the Senior Center project, the final purchase of the building is contingent on the city receiving a \$500,000 community development block grant from the federal government by Sept. 6, 2018. The city is currently contracted with a grantwriter from MSA with a purported 97 percent success rate in those type of ventures.

The city also needs to raise another \$500,000 from sources in the community by Nov. 1, 2018.

Alderwoman Deb Fox said total costs would be roughly \$1.67 million.

The project will come up before the city in a November referendum ballot question. That referendum will be non-binding, but both Schroeder and Mayor Doug Pinnow said the city would be bound to follow the results of that vote.

The City Council will meet again Tuesday, May 29 at 7 p.m. at City Hall in Brodhead.

Brodhead Optimists Fishing Derby June 16

The annual Optimist Fishing Derby is scheduled for Saturday, June 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the pond west of Vintage Chariots on 23rd St. in Brodhead.

This event is for children 12 and under. Each participant will receive a free hot dog, Blumer's pop, a bag of chips and an ice cream coupon for McDonald's, along with free bait. Every hour, a prize for the largest and the smallest fish caught will be awarded. Participants are limited to one hourly prize.

At the end of the day, one participant will receive an award for the overall largest fish and smallest, and most fish caught.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS The Independent-Register

TAKIN' CARE OF BUSINESS

Top: The Youth Americans 4-H Club picked up trash along the highway at their May meeting, and completed their section of the highway in about a half hour. The club then conducted regular meeting business over pizza at Pizza Hut. Above: The Young Americans 4-H club normally meets on the second Monday of the months September through June at St. John's UCC Fellowship Hall in Monroe at 6 p.m.



Church Directory

Albany Lutheran Church, 503 N. Mechanic, Albany. Pastor Pete Heide. 608-862-3080-office. 9 a.m. worship; 10 a.m. Sunday school.

Albany United Methodist Church, 500 Park Street, Albany; 608-862-3206; Pastor Tom Moe; Sunday service at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.; Children's Sunday School at 8:45 a.m. (Sept. through May); Adult Bible Study at 8:45 a.m.

Bethany Lutheran Church, 16529 West Church Road, Brodhead. 608-897-4158. Pastor Richard Thickpenney. No Sunday School, 8:45 a.m.; Worship service, 9 a.m.; Communion first and third Sundays of each month.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 405 E 9th Ave., Brodhead, WI, 53520, 608-897-2341, Rev. Peder Johanson, Pastor. Web: bethlembrodhead.org. Sunday, May 27 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour 5:30 p.m. Church League Softball Game

Brodhead Church of the Nazarene, 1004 13th Street. Rev. Dave Krohn, Pastor. 608-897-9277. "Pre-Prayer Service 8:45 a.m. (Sunday morning), Children's church 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study 6:30 p.m. (church basement); third Saturday each month (Free Movie Night 6:45 p.m.); third Sunday each month (fellowship dinner following service). Sunday school all ages - 9 a.m. Family worship - 10 a.m. Wednesday nights 6:30-7:30 p.m. - Caravan for children through age 12 and adult Bible study. Please call pastor for information.

Brodhead United Methodist Church 501 1st Center Ave.

Brodhead, WI 53520 608-897-2515 Pastor: Rev. Krystal Goodger. Pastor's Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - Noon. Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00a.m. - 3 p.m. Brodhead United Methodist Church. We are Handicapped Accessible. Worship Hours: Sundays, 9:00 a.m.; Christian Education: Sundays, 10:15 a.m. Website www.brodheadumc.org

Facebook- United Methodist Church of Brodhead. Services air on cable channel 988 on Sunday at 11 a.m. Sun. May 27 9:00 am; Worship Service; 10:15 am Sunday School; Mon. May 28 Church Office Closed; Tues. May 29 1:00-3:00 pm VBS Work Day

Congregational United Church of Christ, E. 201 23rd St., Brodhead, 53520. 608-897-2917. Pastor David Frey 897-2917. Sunday Worship at 9 a.m. Communion is the first Sunday of each month. Alcoholics Anonymous meetings every Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m. Quilting and crafts workshop every Wednesday at 9 a.m.; White Gift Food Pantry located downtown at the Senior Center, open the third Saturday of

each month from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Community Clothes Closet, located at the old Water and Light Building opens every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 28 Land Use Team Meeting @ Church 6:00 p.m.; June 4 Diaconate Meeting & Church 11:00 a.m.; June 5 Bible Study @ Church 6:30 p.m.; June 9, Men's Group Meeting @ Church 8:00 a.m.

Footville Church of Christ, on County B in Footville. John Thomson, Preaching Minister. 608-876-6736. Sundays: Adventure Land & Bible School, 9:15 a.m.; Fellowship, 10:05 a.m. Sunday morning worship 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday evening activities: Simple Supper 6 p.m.; Life Spring, 6:30 p.m. We are in need of housing for some of our Mission's Representatives. Contact Teresa Earleywine at earleywiedt@gmail.com or 608-897-2038, if you are able to help. Look us up at www.footvillechurchofchrist.com to learn more about our church family.

Grace Independent Baptist Church. Hwy 81, 3/4 mile east of junction with 11, Brodhead. Donald Adams, Pastor. 608-897-8454. 9:30 a.m. Sunday school; 10:30 a.m. morning worship; 6 p.m. evening service. Wed., 6 p.m. service.

Harvest Community Church, 519 E. Beloit Street, Orfordville. 608-879-2640. Sunday worship services 10 a.m.

Hilltop Community Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Albany, 608-214-3180. Pastor Kevin R. Phillip. Sunday worship 10 a.m.; adult Christian Bible study Sunday 9 a.m.; children's Sunday school 9 a.m. (Sept.-May).

Zion United Methodist, N2350 Church St., Juda. 608-934-5398. Rev. Kelly Jahn. Sun. School 9:30am for all ages; Worship service 10:45am.

Living Word Church, Pastor Russ Doebler, 3825 S. County Highway T, livingwordwi.org.ptl@livingwordwi.or 608-897-8246. Sunday morning worship at 10 a.m.; Sunday evening IMPACT youth group from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. First and third Mondays: Women's Bible Study from 7 to 8 p.m.. Fridays: Men's Prayer, 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. AWANA Wednesday 6-7:30 p.m.

Luther Valley Lutheran Church, ELCA. 7107 South Luther Valley Road, Beloit. Est. 1844. Rev. P. Jackson Way, Jr., Pastor. 608-879-2934. Sunday worship at 8:15 a.m. and 10 a.m.; Sunday School and Coffee Hour at 9:30 a.m.

New Horizon United Methodist Church. Jorge Ochoa, Pastor. 1726 S. Murphy Rd-just off Hwy 11 between Orfordville and Footville. 876-6256. Sunday worship services at 9:00 a.m. Monday night Kids Krew at 5:30 for ages five-12. All are welcomed.

Oakley-Union United Methodist, W2388 Gerber Rd., Juda. 608-934-5398. Rev. Kelly Jahn. Worship and Children's Sunday School at 9 a.m.

Orfordville Lutheran Church. 879-2575. Pastor Andrew Twiton. Sunday: 9 a.m. worship with Communion; Sunday school; 10 a.m. fellowship; Thursdays 9-11 a.m. CUP Pantry.

Plymouth United Methodist Church, 5614 S. County Hwy H, Orfordville. 608-879-2156. Sun., 9 a.m. church services.

St. Augustine Catholic Church. 280 Haberdale Drive, Footville, WI. 876-6252. Father Kevin Dooley. Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. 338 S. Harrison Street, Belleville. 424-3681. Father Michael Moon. Saturday 5 and 8 p.m. Mass-

es, Sunday 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

St. Mary Catholic Church. 602 W. Main Street, Durand, Ill. 815-248-2490. Msgr. Eric Barr. Saturday 4:30 p.m. Mass, Sunday 8 a.m. Mass.

St. Paul Catholic Church. 39 Garfield Street, Evansville. 882-4138. Father Kevin Dooley. Saturday 5 p.m. Mass, Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass.

St. Patrick Catholic Church, Albany. Father Michael Moon, Pastor. 862-3400. Tuesday 8 a.m. Mass. Parish Nurse hours: Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

St. Patrick Catholic Church, (mission of St. Mary, Durand) in Irish Grove, Illinois. Sunday 10 a.m. Masses.

St. Peter Lutheran Church Pastor Mark Neumann, 608-897-2092. 1708 W. 6th Ave., Brodhead. Church Schedule During Lent: Sundays: Worship at 9:00 a.m.; Sunday School & Bible Class at 10:15 a.m.; Wednesdays: 6:00 p.m. Lenten Lunch; 7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship; 8:00 p.m. Choir Practice. Our monthly Church Council & Ladies Aid meetings are held on the Second Sunday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Our Spring Church Schedule: Sundays: Worship at 9:00 a.m.; Sunday School & Adult Bible Class at 10:15 a.m.; Our monthly Church Council & Ladies Aid meetings are held on the Second Sunday of the month at 10:00 a.m

St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Father Larry Bakke, Pastor. Wednesday 8 a.m., Mass; Brodhead. 608-325-9506.

St. Clare of Assisi, 1760 14th Street, Monroe. 608-325-9506. Father Larry Bakke. Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Sunday, 8 a.m. at St. Victor; Thursday, 8:30 a.m. at St. Victor; Saturday, 4:30 p.m. at St. Victor, and Sunday, 10 a.m. at St. Victor.

'Shipwrecked' VBS at BUMC June 18-22

At Shipwrecked VBS, kids discover how Jesus rescues us through life's storms. Shipwrecked is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste. Sciency-Fun Gizmos and crafts, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life- a God Sighting.

Brodhead United Methodist Church invites all children age 3 through incoming 5th grade students to join us the week of June 18-22 from 12:30 to 5pm. Students entering 6th grade and older are encouraged to volunteer to be Crew Leaders, and help with the fun! Crew Leader training for everyone is April 28th from 9:30-11:30am (you will learn about the week, try a snack or two, sing a song, and make your shirt for the week of VBS). We will

provide a bus from Summer School, lunch, and a snack each day. Children are encouraged to bring their friends for the week! The program is free to the community.

To register online, go to vbspro.events/p/bumc.

If you have any questions, please call the church at 608-897-2515, or email chrisitanedbumc@gmail.com. We are excited to welcome your children to this life-changing adventure.

'The Potting Shed' to host Green County Master Gardeners

Do you have some new flower interests? What plants can be potted together? What colors go with my various foliages? Questions such as these will be answered at the next Green County Master Gardeners tour.

The Green County Master Gardeners will be holding their monthly tour on Thursday, May 24th, at 7:00pm at The Potting Shed, located at N4747 Center Road. Our hostess at this month's meeting will be Sandy Spotts, Sandy intends to give us a quick overview of greenhouse operations. She will review greenhouse preparation, growing and sell-

ing of beautiful annuals, perennials, succulents, herbs & veggies, and other garden plants.

Even though the weather outside hasn't been cooperating, the flowers don't know the difference! They still need the water, the heat, the sun and the love! Soon the weather will give way to the warming conditions needed. Prepare to see the beautiful creations that are in pots, baskets, and other décor items The presentation will be followed by a tour of their greenhouse,

The Green County Master Gardeners Association officers for 2018 include Rae Wellnitz, President;

Tanna McKeon, Vice President; Kristi Leonard, Secretary; and Lynn Lokken as Treasurer.

They meet on the fourth Thursday of the month from February through October. Meetings usually include speakers or tours for learning and are open to the public to attend. Anyone interested in horticulture and gardening is welcome to join the association and you do not have to be a Master Gardener to be a member.

For more information on the UW-Extension Master Gardener program contact Jayne Butts, Green County UW-Extension at 608-328-9440.

Meetings

Boy Scout Troop 108 meets at 6:30 Mondays in the Brodhead United Methodist Church basement, 501 1st Center Avenue.

The American Legion Post 197 meets on the first Monday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Post Home, 807 E. Exchange. No meetings are held in July, August or September.

Masonic Lodge meets the second Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Lodge rooms, 302 1st Center Avenue. No meetings in June, July or August.

Wallace-Culles-Maveus VFW Post 6858 meetings are at 7 p.m. the third Monday of each month at 807 E. Exchange Street (American Legion building).

Brodhead Jaycees meet the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Masonic Temple, 302 1st Center Avenue. All men and women ages 18-40 are welcome.

Brodhead Optimist Club meets at 7 a.m., Tuesdays at Country Garden Cafe, 913 W. Exchange St., Brodhead.

AmVets meet the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion building, 807 E. Exchange, Brodhead.

Brodhead Sports Boosters meet the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Brodhead High School, 2501 W. 5th Avenue.

AA meeting, Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and Thursdays at 7 p.m. at Congregational United Church of Christ, E201 23rd Street, Brodhead. For more information call Mike M. at 608-751-5684.

The Juda Community Club will meet every third Wednesday of the month, 8 p.m. at the Juda Fire Station, W3673 County Road K. Everyone welcome.

Cub Scout Pack meeting at Brodhead United Methodist Church, 501 1st Center Avenue, 6 p.m. every third Thursday of the month during the school year.

Summer hours effective June 1st through October 26th at Memorial Public Library, 1207 25th Street: Mon. thru Thurs. 9-7; Fri. 9-5; Sat. 9-1. Winter hours effective Sept. 1 through May 31: Mon. thru Thurs. 9-8; Fri. 9-6; Sat. 9-1 p.m. Library Board meets third Tuesday of the month 4 p.m.

Green County Landfill, W2002 County Road SS, hours: Monday thru Friday 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed on Saturday.

Brodhead FFA Alumni meets the third Thursday of each month, 7:30 p.m., Bank of Brodhead courtesy room, 806 E. Exchange Street, from September to May except for December.

White Gift Food Pantry, north door Senior Center, 1103 W. Exchange Street, is open every third Saturday from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

TOPS meet at Monroe United Methodist Church, 2227 4th Street, Monroe. For questions call 608-325-9491.

The American Legion Post 144, 300 N. Water Street, Albany, meets on the first Wednesday of every month, breakfast every third Sunday at the post home.

Green County Area E&I (Entrepreneurs and Inventors) Club meets the first Monday of the month, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the New Glarus meeting room at the Monroe Clinic Hospital, 515 22nd Avenue, Monroe. Meetings are free and open to public. More information by calling 608-328-9452 or at www.GreenCountyEDC.com

AA Meeting every Friday evening - 8 p.m. at Orfordville Lutheran Church, 210 N. Main Street, Orfordville.

Sponsored by:
Body Crafters
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Repair, Inc.
 2508 1st Center Ave.
 Brodhead, WI
 608-897-8447

24 THURSDAY No events scheduled	25 FRIDAY No events scheduled	26 SATURDAY Opening Weekend: Brodhead Historical Society Depot Museum	27 SUNDAY Opening Weekend: Brodhead Historical Society Depot Museum	28 MONDAY Water and Light closed City Hall closed 9 a.m. Veterans Memorial Day parade	29 TUESDAY 5 p.m. BID/Revitalization 7 p.m. City Council	30 WEDNESDAY 1 p.m. Historical Society Museum open
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VIEWPOINT

Slices of life

Three inquisitive, eager uncles

They'd be the first to admit they are more adept at handing off a football versus a tiny human being, but during the last week they've certainly given the latter their best efforts.

At exactly two minutes before midnight on a recent Sunday, soon-to-be Monday, my three sons became instant uncles. Their excitement and curiosity regarding the whole process has been interesting (to say the least).

Early on Sunday morning, they were all aware that their very-pregnant sister had gone into the hospital and the possibility of a baby was imminent. As a group they were inquisitive, eager, concerned and excited. However, each of the boys took his own unique approach to the situation.

One went golfing, saying he'd just do nine holes instead of 18 so he could be home in time to meet the baby — just the first of many sacrifices he'll make as an uncle, I'm sure.

Another worried out loud about his sister, the baby and whether everything would go as planned. He grew more quiet and thoughtful as the day lingered on.



By **JILL PERTLER**
Contributor

The third spent the day Googling various labor and birth-related topics, sharing bits and pieces of his newfound information with the rest of the family; knowledge is power.

The golfer returned from his outing and still there was no baby. He probably could have done 18 after all.

Why was this baby taking so long to get here? Impatience lingered in the air.

Day faded into night and the worrier and Googler opted to go to bed and try to sleep. I don't think they were successful, but their aim was an attempt at normalcy. The golfing son was in it for the long haul, determined to wait it out until baby arrived.

Arrive she did at 11:58 p.m.

and although they all were beyond eager to meet her, each took his own approach toward the newest member of our family when we made our first visit that next morning.

Two of them fought over the right to be first uncle to hold her. After a quick round of rock-paper-scissors, Google won out over golf. They all expressed amazement at her tiny hands and firm grip on their now seemingly enormous index fingers.

They gushed over her. "She's strong for being so little." "Look at her baby fingernails!" "Her ears are so tiny!" She dozed like an exhausted newborn in their arms and they were impressed and in love. Their awe and amazement was undeniable. Even and especially from the son who opted to hold her last.

When it came his turn, he sat down and made a crook in his arms like he'd seen his other brothers do. Another brother gingerly lowered her and they completed the hand-off with a tender loving care I'd not previously witnessed and didn't know they were capable of. In

their eyes she was as delicate as a newborn and they treated her as such: treasured and fragile.

The last son holding worried she might not be comfortable in his arms.

He worried about doing something that might make her cry. Oh please don't let her cry! He's never been an uncle before and newness can be unsettling. She slept right through his consternations.

At one point she wrinkled her nose and then her lips rose at the edges in what looked suspiciously like a smile. His face lit up. His shoulders relaxed and he settled

more comfortably into his chair. Maybe this baby holding gig wasn't so scary after all.

"She smiled already and she's not even a day old!" More gushing ensued.

I didn't have the heart to tell him it was probably gas.

To put it mildly, we are all in love.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright, author and member of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. Don't miss a slice; follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.

Outgoing lawmaker notes narrowing partisan divide

By Wispolitics.com

Sometimes, it's more interesting to note what elected officials say on the way out than when they're in office, constantly electioneering, posturing and pleasing all sorts of people.

So, let's take note of the reflections of low-key Republican state Assemblyman Ed Brooks of Reedsburg.

Brooks is passing on a re-election bid because of health issues. He announced his retirement May 14 due to his ongoing battle with leukemia.

The 75-year-old Brooks, who was elected to the Assembly in 2008, said recently rapport between lawmakers on either side of the aisle has improved since the passage in 2011 of the divisive Act 10. He remembers the time as one when "things were pretty strange."

"I think the cold is thawing. We're realizing we can work across the aisle," he said.

In his absence, Brooks said he hopes lawmakers will address transportation funding and access to broadband.

He said efficiency in transportation funding is important, but that at some point, more funding will be

needed.

"Eventually it gets to where you can't squeeze any more moisture out of a sponge, and I think we have to probably make some adjustments," said Brooks, who served on the Transportation Committee this session.

For Brooks, that would mean considering modest increases in the gas tax and registration fees, as well as keeping tolling on the table.

As to his health, Brooks is receiving chemotherapy as he fights the leukemia he battled into remission last year.

Brooks told reporters his doctor in mid-April detected a low platelet count — an indicator of the blood cancer — and soon after performed a bone marrow biopsy.

He said chemotherapy is part of a broader care regimen designed to improve quality of life.

"We feel good," the Reedsburg Republican said. "It's good to feel good when you're sick. As our health stabilizes, we'll know a lot better ... what options we have available."

He said he wanted to run for re-election but elected not to because

See LAWMAKER, Page 5

Pet Talk: Could your pet benefit from essential oils?

Many people have turned to essential oils as part of their holistic approach to well-being. As the popularity of these products grows, some pet owners may wonder about incorporating essential oils into their pet's healthcare routine.

Although essential oils may be beneficial to pets, Dr. Murl Bailey, a professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, said to use essential oils with caution.

Essential oils can be a gentler alternative to traditional medicine. Applied topically, these oils quickly absorb into the skin and can help strengthen the immune system.

However, not all essential oils are safe to use on pets, and some pets may be allergic to specific oils. Additionally, the oils can be harmful if ingested or given in large doses.

"Essential oils should never be given by mouth or in the animal's food," Bailey said. "Oral ingestion can cause vomiting, diarrhea, and central nervous system depression, which can cause symptoms such as decreased heart and breathing rate. Seizures are also possible from large doses."

Bailey added that oils applied to the animal's skin may be ingested during the animal's self-grooming. Therefore, it is best

to apply the oil at the base of the neck where the animal can't reach. Additionally, if you apply essential oils to your own skin, avoid allowing your pet to lick your skin after application.

Bailey included this list of toxic essential oils:

- * Armoise
- * Basil
- * Bay leaf (W. Indian)
- * Birch (sweet)
- * Bitter almond
- * Boldo leaf
- * Buchu
- * Calamus
- * Clove Leaf
- * Cornmint
- * Horseradish
- * Hyssop
- * Lanyana
- * Mustard
- * Myrr
- * Oregano
- * Pennyroyal (N. Am.)
- * Pennyroyal (Eur.)
- * Pine oil
- * Sasafras (Brazilian)
- * Sassafras
- * Savin
- * Savory (Summer)
- * Southernwood
- * Tansy
- * Tarragon
- * Tea tree
- * Thuja
- * Tree wormwood, large wormwood
- * Western Red Cedar

- * Wintergreen
- * Wormseed
- * Wormwood
- * Ylang ylang

If your pet displays any signs of poisoning, you can call the Pet Poison Helpline at (855) 764-7661 or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at (888) 426-4435. You can also contact your veterinarian.

If you are interested in using essential oils on your pet, your primary care veterinarian may be able to help. You can also search for a veterinarian through the American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association at <https://www.ahvma.org/>.

Natural ways to treat pets, such as essential oils, are growing in availability. However, Bailey reminds pet owners that essential oils are not regulated and the concentration and safety listed on the label may be unknown in pets. As always, it is always best to consult your veterinarian before beginning any new treatment regimen.

Pet Talk is a service of the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. Stories can be viewed on the web at vetmed.tamu.edu/pet-talk. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to editor@cvm.tamu.edu.

Fiscal Facts: Draw-down in State's Unemployment Fund Weakened Wisconsin's Fiscal Standing

Just as its short-term health deteriorated during 2002-09, Wisconsin's state fiscal year health was weak through 2010. During that period, state expenditures exceeded revenues in five of nine years.

Among many factors contributing to the state's weak financial position, one that stands out was a continuing imbalance between revenues and spending in Wisconsin's unemployment reserve fund. In each year during 2002-10, includ-

ing years of economic expansion, the state paid out more in benefits than it collected in unemployment taxes. In the five years in which total state expenditures exceeded revenues, unemployment deficits accounted for two-thirds of the gap.

In 2008, the state took steps to fix the unemployment reserve fund, though those actions did not become effective until 2009. In addition, for the most part, lawmak-

ers have ceased drawing down balances in segregated funds to pay for general fund spending.

Since 2010, total state revenues exceeded spending in every year. In 2017, revenues of \$36.5 billion funded spending of \$35.2 billion.

This information is a service of the Wisconsin Policy Forum, the state's leading resource for non-partisan state and local government research and civic education.

THE INDEPENDENT-REGISTER

"Committed to the communities we serve"

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WISCONSIN
NEWSPAPER
ASSOCIATION

Coached up, sent off



Left: Three athletes signed letters of intention last week at Brodhead High School. The athletes are pictures with their respective coaches. From left to right: Madee Harding - University of Hawaii at Manoa, Track & Field; Erin Nyhus - University of WI Stevens Point, Basketball; and Abbey Johnson - Virtebo University, Volleyball; Top row L-R: Curt Gratz - BHS Track & Field Head Coach, Brian Kammerer - BHS Girls Basketball, Athletic Director and Erin Kammerer - BHS Girls Volleyball.

MANDY FIELDS PHOTO
The Independent-Register



Madee Harding signs her letter of intent for Track & Field at the University of Hawaii at Manoa as her family and Coach Curt Gratz look on. Madee is the daughter of Amy Harding of Brodhead and Jason Harding of Orfordville, and brother Max.

MANDY FIELDS PHOTO
The Independent-Register



With her family and Coach Brian Kammerer by her side, Erin Nyhus signs her letter of intent to play basketball for University of Wisconsin Stevens point. Erin's parents are Terry and Ann Nyhus of Brodhead. Her brother Garrett was also a witness.

MANDY FIELDS PHOTO The Independent-Register



Abbey Johnson signs her letter of intent to play volleyball at Virtebo University with her family and Coach Erin Kammerer by her side. Abbey is the daughter of Russ and Daphney Johnson. Siblings Amanda, Josh, and Jake Johnson shared in on Abbey's moment.

MANDY FIELDS PHOTO The Independent-Register

Library gears up for summer reading program

More presentations and grand prizes

By Dan Moeller
CORRESPONDENT

The Brodhead library board last week approved using up to \$1,050 from the Sugar River donations fund to help cover expenses for the summer reading program. They will be having more performers this year and also having more grand prizes for children and adults, library director Angela Noel reports. The money was given to the library in the past to support the summer reading program and it hasn't been needed until now.

Noel reported on the draft of the summer reading program at last week's board meeting. Most of the programming is final but some changes were still possible, she said. "It's the teen and adult programs that we're still shifting and adding and changing things slightly," Noel said after the meeting. Summer reading will be divided into two age categories: 0 to 13 and 14 and up. There aren't enough teens for a separate teen program, Noel reports.

Events will include "Read to a dog" on Mondays, Terrific Tuesday programs on Tuesdays and also a teen book club in June, story time, drop-in Lego club and Art @ the (Putnam) Park on Wednesdays and movie matinees on Thursdays. There are also programs planned on other days of the week as well.

Summer reading registration begins June 1. It will end with a wrap-up party from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, July 28. There will be approximately 60 programs during the 50 days the library is open during summer reading, said Noel. The programming, said Noel, "is a lot more than we were doing two years ago but I think it is all important fun stuff that hopefully the community will appreciate."

The theme of summer reading is "Libraries Rock." There will be li-



GRAPHIC SUPPLIED *The Independent-Register*
Libraries Rock is the theme of this year's summer reading program.

brary programs in August but not nearly as many as in June and July, said Noel.

In other matters:

* The board granted Noel permission to teach an on-line library course at UW-Madison starting in the fall. The course is an advanced public administration class. The work will be done outside library hours but board permission was still needed because it is employment outside her library duties.

* The board decided to update its by-laws covering the administration of the board meetings and information regarding official duties. Noel said the only by-laws she can find covering the board are the original ones from the early 1900s. "We are going to work on collecting some updated by-laws for libraries our size around us," Noel said following the meeting. Once there is a draft of the new by-laws, the library system will review them and then the board will enact new by-laws, she said.

Looking at the by-laws for example, Noel said the board procedures are "pretty standard" but they aren't what is written in the library by-laws from 1906. Noel said hopefully by the end of the summer the library will have by-laws that are much more up-to-date than the cur-

rent ones.

* The board asked to have the library's water tested before possibly getting a water cooler for the staff area. The library has odor issues with that water because it is at the end of the library's water line and tends to become stagnant for a while before being used. Noel will be working with Brodhead Water & Light to get the water tested. The library will probably have an outside firm also test the water before the board makes a decision on how to act.

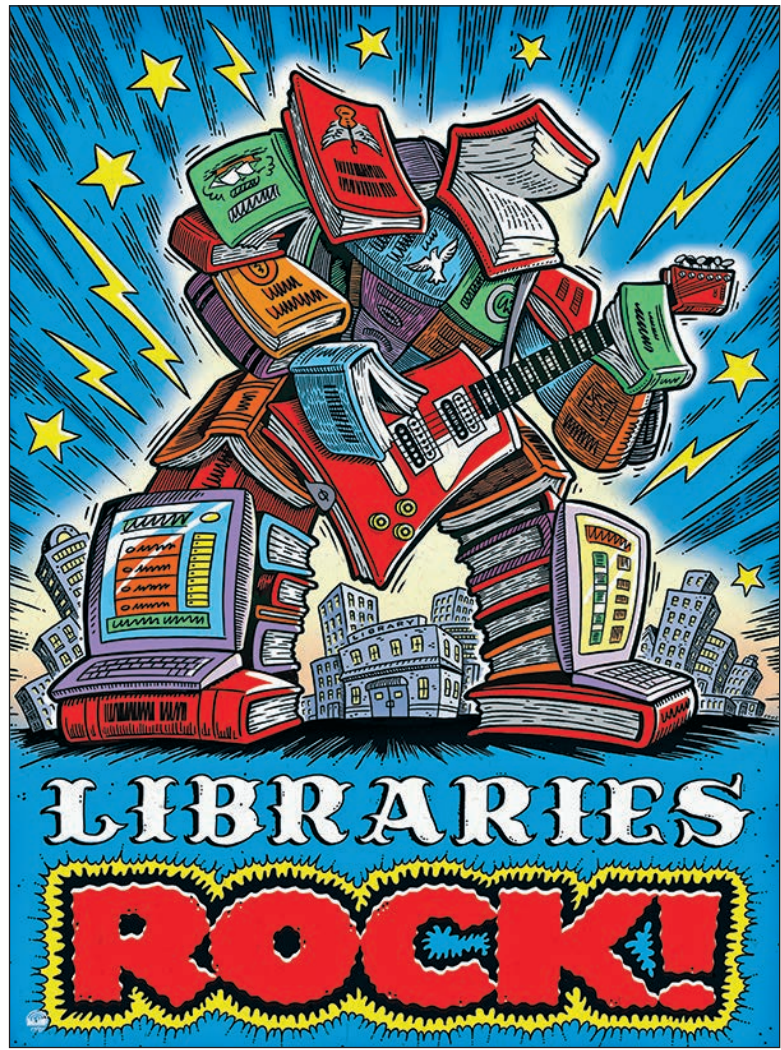
"The board just wants to make sure the water is safe to drink, which the city has said it is," said Noel. However, the odor is so off-putting that staff members are using the public drinking fountain, which means they are away from the working area, she said.

"It's not fun when you are trying to drink water that smells like rotten eggs so the staff would like to have something better to work with," Noel said, "so we'll see what happens. We'll see where this goes."

* Noel reported wireless usage continues to climb, going up around 10 percent compared to the month before. Also, Noel gave the board a preview of the new library website which they are hoping will be operational by the end of the month. The goal is to have it up and running by the start of summer reading. "Hopefully soon we'll have that up and ready," said Noel.

* Noel reported that upcoming programs were Friends of the library meeting on May 16, the Brodhead book club on May 17 and an adult craft night at 5:30 p.m. on May 23.

* The board did not take up a policy change affecting political events at the library. Noel reported last month that it is the opinion of the South Central Library System that libraries cannot ban partisan political groups from using library space such



GRAPHIC SUPPLIED *The Independent-Register*
A robot made of books playing a guitar is one of the logos being used by the Brodhead library to promote its upcoming summer reading program.

as public meeting rooms. Last October the board approved a formal change in the meeting room policy that curtails political activity in the library. The library needs more information on what the library can and cannot allow and the matter will be on next month's agenda.

The next library board meeting will be on Monday, June 11 at 4 p.m. The board meeting this month was held a week earlier and the June meeting will also be a week earlier than normal. The meeting day will return to the normal third Monday of the month in July.

Friends of the library group up and running

Group will meet quarterly, first meeting June 6

By Dan Moeller
CORRESPONDENT

A new friends of the Brodhead library group is now a reality.

Members of the general public interested in joining a friends group held an organizational meeting last Wednesday, elected officers and planned for their next meeting.

Travis Droessler was chosen as president. Ann Mueller will serve as vice-president. Kari Wahl will be secretary and Alice Roemer will function as treasurer.

The group has decided to meet quarterly with the first meeting planned for 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 6 at the library. Other announced meetings will be the first

Wednesday of September, December and March. Next month the friends will approve new by-laws for the organization. Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to join the group.

The friends group works with the library staff and board members but is independent of them. A library friends group traditionally does some fundraising for the library, serves as volunteers at some library events and generally promotes the library with the public.

Library director Angela Noel reported there is balance of more than \$4,300 in a bank account that is controlled by the friends for the purpose of benefitting the library.

Those funds have been unused

while the friends group has been dormant.

Following a suggestion by Noel, the friends group's first project may be to assist in a music trivia night that will probably be held in late June. Details of that event will be discussed at the June friends meeting.

The library has been working to restart the group after it basically dissolved at least two years ago as membership declined.

Getting a friends group going has been a goal of new library board president Kelly Gratz. Gratz and Noel will regularly attend the friends meetings as part of the library's partnership with the friends. Gratz has been contacting

people she thought might be interested in joining.

After the meeting, Droessler said he was one of the people Gratz contacted. "I just saw that Kelly wanted me to come and I just thought that would be fun."

Droessler said his family visits the library two of three times a week. He said he feels the library needs the support. "It (the library) is a great thing to support."

Gratz said the library is "super excited" about having the friends group up and running. "It's time. It's been too long since we've had a functioning friends group so it's exciting to finally have a group of people who are wanting to support the library."



DAN MOELLER PHOTO *The Independent-Register*
Travis Droessler is the president of the new Brodhead Friends of the Library organization.

•Lawmaker (Continued from page 3)

of the health news, and that the late timing of his announcement was not intentional.

In his retirement, Brooks said he plans to first focus on his health, as well as be involved in local government and spend time with his family, particularly his grandchildren.

As of mid-May, Brooks was the 14th member of the Assembly to decide against seeking re-election this fall. Seven members have announced plans to retire without seeking another office; five are running for another office; one, Democrat Cory Mason has already won the office of Racine mayor and resigned; and one, Republican Keith Ripp of Lodi, joined Gov. Scott Walker's administration.

Tony Kurtz, an organic farmer who spent 20 years in the Army, announced he's running as a Republican for the 50th Assembly District being vacated by Brooks.

Kurtz, who serves on the state's Organic Advisory Board and was member of the Farm Service Agency State Committee, was a helicopter pilot in the Army.

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Dairy scholarship winners announced

Five Green County area youth were recently selected to receive scholarships through the annual Dairy Youth Recognition Auction Scholarship program. The scholarships are funded through proceeds garnered from the Green County Dairy Youth Recognition Auction that is held in conjunction with the Cheese Auction conducted by the Foreign Type Cheesemakers Association at the County Fair.

Scholarships were awarded on the basis of information provided by the applicant that included their involvement in the dairy project, leadership skills they gained in 4-H & FFA and their future career goals. An applicant must be a senior in high school or enrolled in secondary education to be eligible to apply for this scholarship that is an active Green County dairy project member in 4-H or FFA. The scholarships do not require that youth go into a dairy related

career.

A total of \$4,000 was distributed this year by the Dairy Youth Auction Committee. Receiving Dairy Youth Scholarships were: Rachel McCullough, daughter of Chris and Kathie McCullough, Juda; Clayton Mahlkuch, son of Jeff & Terri Mahlkuch, Juda; Dylan Steiner, son of Amy and Jeremy Steiner, Juda; Andrew Nimtz, son of Jeff and Julie Nimtz, Monticello and Karly Ready, daughter of Rob & Kim Ready, Monticello.

These youth will be formally recognized at the 2018 Green County Dairy Youth Auction to be held on July 22nd, during the Green County Fair. Over \$40,000 in scholarships has been awarded to Green County Youth through this auction since 2004. For more information on the Dairy Youth Recognition Auction Program in Green County, please contact the UW-Extension Office at 328-9440.

Congratulations,



MANDY FIELDS PHOTO The Independent-Register

Row 1: Jared Marden, Rebekah Masloske, Braxton Mather, Gabrielle McCarty, Mason McLoud; Row 2: Emaleigh McNeece, Jersey Medenwaldt, Julia Meyer, Brooklyn Michel, Taylor Midthun, Kiarra Moe.



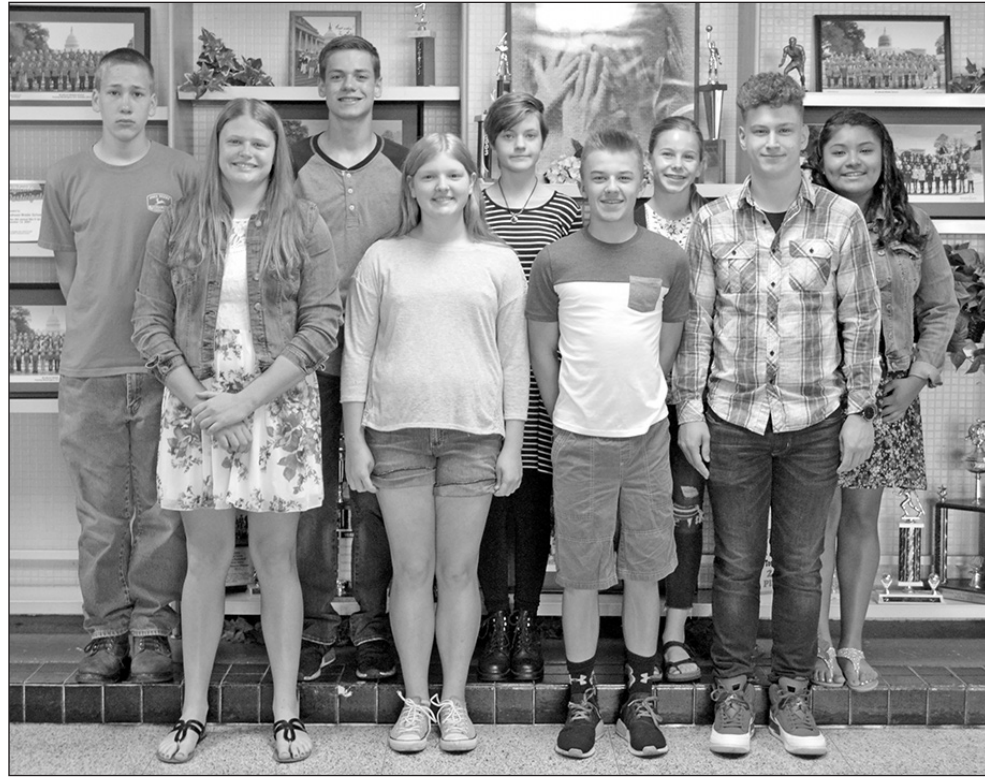
MANDY FIELDS PHOTO The Independent-Register

Row 1: James Murray, Daisy Nelson, Trevor O'Connor, Onnikah Oliver, Hunter Oller; Row 2: Addison Olson, Ephraim Olson Colin patton, Kyleigh Raupp, Mario Reyes-Ramirez, Sierra Richards.



MANDY FIELDS PHOTO The Independent-Register

Row 1: Blake Ring, Brady Rosheison, Caleb Rossetti, Monica Salgado, Colten Steiner; Row 2: Dakota Schwartzlow, Blake Senobe, Alexander Slater, Joie Steinmann, Cherokee Turner, Bryce Tway.



MANDY FIELDS PHOTO The Independent-Register

Row 1: Victoria Urness, Amanda Visger, William Weeden, Gavyn Wendelschafer, ; Row 2: Hans Wenger, Cooper Woelky, Kaila Wolline, Ellie Yates, Perla Yescas.



SUBMITTED PHOTO The Independent-Register

Aliza Gallagher and Vanessa Allen.



Class of 2022

BMS 8th Graders



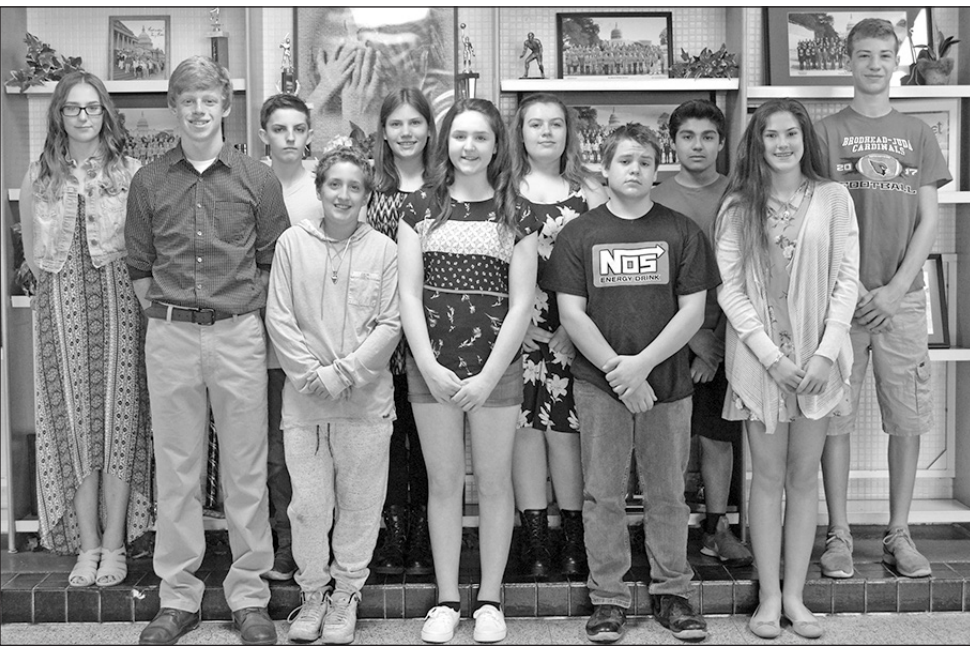
MANDY FIELDS PHOTO The Independent-Register

Row 1: Presleigh Arnold, Jacob Arnsmeier, Wyatt Ball, Brielle Baxter, Melody Baxter;
Row 2: Nadia Becerril, Kael Bedward, Anjelika Belmontes, Jack Beutel, Sabian Blang, Makaylee Blum.



MANDY FIELDS PHOTO The Independent-Register

Row 1: Gage Boegli, Brady Burns, Jada Burkhalter, Colton Buttke, Levi Clark; Row 2: Shyleigh Condon, Piper Conway, Alexis Cook, Mercedes Coplien, Payton Demrow, Lindsay Dodd.



MANDY FIELDS PHOTO The Independent-Register

Row 1: Josiah Engen, Kayden Flannery, Kiersten Glynn, Garrett Hadley, Cora Hafen;
Row 2: Paityn Harding, Tyler Hawkins, Olivia Herrington, Victoria Hickman, Junior Hilarrio-Herrera, Cole Hoesly



MANDY FIELDS PHOTO The Independent-Register

Row 1: Anthony Johnson, Madisyn Kail, Cole Keller, Paige Kesler, Zoe Krattiger; Row 2: Jordan Landen, Owen Ieifker, Reece Leutenegger, Jacob Lohmar, Braedon Mal-kow, Seth Mansfield



SPORTS



MANDY FIELDS PHOTO *The Independent-Register*

Friedly connects

Almanzo Friedly connects for a base hit in a contest against McFarland which the Cardinals dropped.



MANDY FIELDS PHOTO *The Independent-Register*

And they're off!

Quinton Kammerer delivers the first pitch for the Cardinals match-up against McFarland at home.



KATHY ROTH PHOTOS *The Independent-Register*

There's the tag

Sophomore Lydia Bouc tries for the tag at second base during the contest against Potosi.



MANDY FIELDS PHOTO *The Independent-Register*

Moving right along

Whitney Gerber adds a base hit for the Lady Cards to advance the runners.



KATHY ROTH PHOTO *The Independent-Register*

Panthers drop reg. season finale

The Juda/Albany softball team was defeated by Potosi 2 to 1 last Thursday in Potosi. The game hinged on a disputed call at second base in the bottom of the sixth inning, according to the Monroe Times. The Panthers finished the regular season 16-3, and 14-1 in the Six Rivers Conference. The team went to Regional Play on Monday. Left, senior Maddie Roth fields a ground ball and throws to first base.



MANDY FIELDS PHOTO *The Independent-Register*

One more time

Senior Azzy Steiner delivers her final first pitch of the regular season at home.