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SHOPPING NEWS

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WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 30, 2020

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Time for a change: Fall color report notes peak viewing



Summer-like days may be fleeting but that means the brilliant colors of autumn can't be far behind.

For an idea of what fall foliage looks like locally and around the state, people can access Travel Wisconsin's Fall Color Report by going online to travelwisconsin.com.

The Fall Color Report is supported by more than 100 reporting agencies, including chambers of commerce, visitor bureaus, tourism organizations and state park and forest rangers, who provide foliage updates for all 72 counties in September and October.

JENNY SHARP Brodhead Independent-Register
 The change of colors will be getting gradually more brilliant this month. An online fall color tracker is available for locations around the state at travelwisconsin.com.

"In Wisconsin, autumn is synonymous with apple orchards, corn mazes, hikes and bike rides, all punctuated by nature's vibrant and beautiful display of fall colors," Tourism Secretary-designee Sara Meaney said in a news release. "Travel Wisconsin's Fall Color Report is a useful resource for planning your fall fun."

"Whether you're looking to hear the crunch of leaves beneath your feet on a hike or savor the flavors of fall at a local farm, I encourage everyone to enjoy the season's many outdoor activities and scenic destinations."

In Green County, the colors are only at about 5 percent of peak, reporters noted. The fourth week of October should be the peak time for autumn hues locally.

For ideas about fall destination activities, go online to travelwisconsin.com.

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Farm operations receive funding to ease burden of pandemic

The numbers are in from the second round of the Wisconsin Farm Support Program, a joint program between the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and the Wisconsin Department of Revenue under the direction of the governor's office. Designed to assist Wisconsin farmers who have faced financial challenges due to COVID-19, the program used \$50 million of the state's CARES Act funding to quickly provide direct support to help cover economic losses during the pandemic. In the first round, \$41.6 million was distributed to nearly 12,000 farmers in 71 of Wisconsin's 72 counties. "I am proud that more than 3,300 Wisconsin farmers received a total of \$8.4 million in the second round of Farm Support Program funding," Gov. Tony Evers said in a news release. "In all, \$50 million has been distributed to more than 15,000 farmers across our state. "These folks have never stopped

doing their part to ensure that consumers around the world have access to high-quality, nutritious food during this public health crisis. I want to thank our farmers for their critically important work, and we're proud to support them in any way we can."

In Green County, farmers received a total of \$1,403,581; in Rock County, farmers received a total of \$1,389,671.

The second round of funding was open to farmers whose gross income from farming in 2019 was between \$10,000 and \$5 million.

"In this round, almost 60 percent of funding recipients reported a gross income from farming of less than \$40,000," said DATCP Secretary-designee Randy Romanski. "Clearly, there was a need for additional support among Wisconsin's smaller farm operations. We are glad that this sec-

ond round was able to provide that support. While this funding won't make anyone whole, we hope it will provide some relief."

Department of Revenue Secretary Peter Barca noted, "I am proud of the work our staff did to design a simple application process. Farmers who completed the online application told us it was clear what was needed to apply and also easy to complete and submit.

"Additionally, we are pleased to report that our customer service team assisted farmers who did not have access to the internet and actually helped them complete the application over the phone. We recognize how vitally important farmers are to both ensuring our families have healthy food to eat as well as contributing to the Wisconsin economy."



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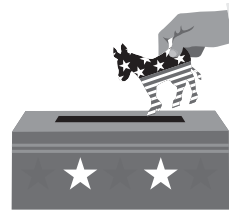
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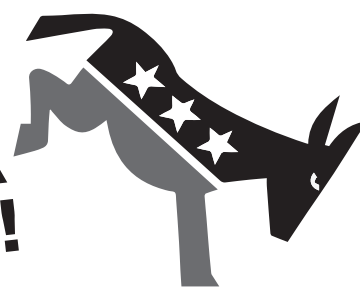
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Governor hopes to drive down infection rate with mask mandate

Gov. Tony Evers recently declared a new public health emergency in Wisconsin due to the recent surge in COVID-19 cases among young people and issued a new face coverings order effective immediately. Both Executive Order #90 and Executive Order #1 are effective immediately and will expire after 60 days or with a subsequent superseding order.

The governor previously declared a public health emergency under Executive Order #82, which remains in effect.

"We continue to learn more about this virus, but what we do know is that we are facing a new and dangerous phase of the COVID-19 pandemic here in Wisconsin," Evers said in a news release. "We are seeing an alarming increase in cases across our state, especially on campus. We need folks to start taking this seriously, and young people especially — please stay home as much as you are able, skip heading to the bars, and wear a mask whenever you go out. We need your help to stop the spread of this virus, and we all have to do this together."

With the start of the school year, Wisconsin is seeing a surge in cases, especially among young people. In fact, 18- to 24-year-olds have a case rate five times higher than any other age group. This significant increase has only occurred within the past month and appears to be driven by in-person social gatherings, the news release said.

During the week of Sept. 14, eight Wisconsin cities were listed among the top 20 cities in the United States where COVID-19 cases were rising fastest, and six of those eight cities have University of Wisconsin System campuses.

"The current surge among young people is concerning, but it is important to remember that this increase in cases is not confined to college campuses," said Department of Health Services Secretary-designee Andrea Palm. "Students come to these campuses from across the state, and we worry about the effect their return from an area with a high infection rate could have on their home communities."

"That is why it is imperative we take

action to curb transmission now — to protect residents of Wisconsin in every corner of the state."

Wisconsin is now experiencing unprecedented, near-exponential growth of the COVID-19 pandemic with the daily number of new cases rising from 678 on Aug. 31 to 1,791 on Sept. 21, a 2.6-fold increase in three weeks, driven in part by the unprecedented number of infections among those 18 to 24 years old.

"We need to remember that most respiratory viruses see their peak activity in Wisconsin between late fall and early spring," said Dr. Ryan Westergaard, Wisconsin's chief medical officer and the state epidemiologist for communicable diseases. "We need to do everything we can now to slow the spread of COVID-19 and prepare for the winter."

"That is why we need to continue wearing masks and practicing physical distancing. It is also why we encourage everyone to get a flu shot this year; the flu shot cannot protect you from COVID-19, but by helping protect you from the flu, it

helps strengthen our COVID-10 response here in Wisconsin by preserving hospital and testing capacity."

On July 30, Evers issued Executive Order #82 to declare a public health emergency as a result of a spike in COVID-19 cases in counties throughout the state. At the same time, Evers issued a statewide face covering mandate.

New cases of COVID-19 slowed down in August as a result of the mandate, but as campuses reopened the last several weeks, there has been a new surge in cases across the state.

With the new face covering order, Wisconsin residents ages 5 and older are required to wear a face covering when they are indoors or in an enclosed space with anyone outside their household or living unit.

For up-to-date information about Wisconsin's COVID-19 response, visit the DHS COVID-19 webpage. More information also is available by following @DHSWI on Facebook and Twitter, or dhs.wi on Instagram.

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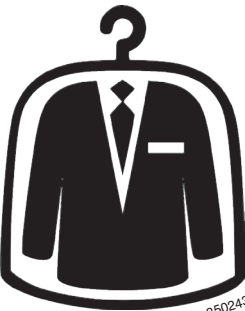
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Local briefs

More Albany students return to in-person learning

Seventh- and eighth-grade students returned to school in Albany on Sept. 28 after a positive staff test for COVID-19 earlier in the month prompted virtual instruction. "The Green County Department of Public Health is projecting our district will have no student/staff with an active COVID-19 case or individual(s) under quarantine," Superintendent William Trow said in a statement on the district website. Staff and students continue to make adjustments as the district moves toward possibly bringing high school students back to campus. An announcement regarding the

status of high school instruction was expected the evening of Sept. 30, Trow said in the statement.

Village notes early voting hours

In-person absentee voting at the Albany Village Hall will begin Oct. 20, with hours from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Village officials are reminding residents that they can register and request an absentee ballot online by going to myvote.wi.gov. For questions about voter identification requirements, go online to bringit.wi.gov.

Residents also may call 608-862-3240 for more information

about voting.

Republicans set monthly meeting

The Republican Party of Green County will hold its monthly breakfast meeting at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, at the Swiss Alps restaurant, 804 Fourth Ave. West, Monroe.

Interested Republicans are invited to attend. For more information, contact Bruce Kloeping at 608-897-8395.

Tourism organization needs models for fall activities

Green County Tourism is looking for "models" for photo and video shoots this fall. Volunteers are

needed to bring their bikes and ride along the Pearl Island path in Brodhead or bring their kayaks and paddle by Pearl Island. Potential models are also needed to ride their ATVs

or UTVs along the Cheese Country Trail.

Those who are interested should email tourism@greencounty.org for more information.

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KATHY ROTH PHOTOS Brodhead Independent-Register

On the ball

Juda libero Ciarrh Davis attempts to return a serve during a match at Barneveld High School last week. The Juda High School team was defeated in three sets, 25 to 22, 25 to 13 and 25 to 5.



Juda freshman Lavinia Rufer gets ready to spike the ball during the match against Albany on Sept. 21. The team lost to the Comets in three sets, 25 to 17, 25 to 4 and 25 to 18.

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Albany Comet News

THURSDAY, OCT. 1

- Albertson Memorial Library curbside pickup for high-risk patrons, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- Village of Albany public hearing/Plan Commission meeting, 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCT. 2

- Albertson Memorial Library full circulation and limited computer service, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCT. 3

- Albertson Memorial Library closed

SUNDAY, OCT. 4

No events scheduled

MONDAY, OCT. 5

- Albertson Memorial Library curbside pickup, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Village of Albany Streets Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCT. 6

- Albertson Memorial Library curbside pickup for high-risk patrons, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 7

- Albertson Memorial Library full circulation and limited computer service, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

* Denotes Albany School program. For more information, please call 608-862-3225.

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Groundwater group works to protect a precious resource

The Wisconsin Groundwater Coordinating Council shared key recommendations for protecting and preserving groundwater resources with the Wisconsin legislature in its August 2020 annual report.

Nearly three-quarters of Wisconsin residents rely on groundwater as the primary source for their drinking water. Wisconsin also relies on groundwater to irrigate crops, water cattle and process a wide variety of foods, as well as feed trout streams and spring-fed lakes — all of which are vital to the state economy.

The council supports the sustainable management of groundwater quantity and quality in the state necessary to ensure that water is available to be used, while protecting and improving health, economy and environment now and into the future.

“While Governor Tony Evers brought needed attention by declaring 2019 the Year of Clean Drinking Water, the work continues to address Wisconsin’s concerns about the safety of their drinking water,” Bruce Rheineck, groundwater section chief for the Department of Natural Resources, said in a news release.

Three of the key recommendations found in the report address some of the most prevalent issues in Wisconsin water quality, including: protecting groundwater from nitrate and other agricultural contaminants, addressing public health and environmental concerns regarding perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) chemicals and evaluating groundwater for viruses and other microbial pathogens.

Areas of the state with a greater density of agriculture generally have a

higher frequency of nitrate and pesticide detection, especially in areas of the state with vulnerable geology and soils. The report recommends supporting research assessing conservation plans that identify and encourage the use of alternate cropping and nutrient management practices that minimize agricultural nitrogen losses to groundwater.

The Council also recommends developing an outreach program to encourage full implementation of these plans.

PFAS chemicals have been detected in drinking water and groundwater in Wisconsin. The report highlights the water quality challenges posed by PFAS. The council recommends establishing PFAS groundwater enforcement standards and continuing to identify PFAS sources and their potential impacts to groundwater and the environment.

Viruses and other microbial pathogens have been found in municipal and domestic wells, challenging previous assumptions about their persistence and transport. Identifying where and when pathogens pose threats to human health is fundamental to improving drinking water quality. The council recommends working with partners to increase awareness of waste disposal practices, their risks and costs.

The 2020 report also highlights the need for increased support of applied



WISCONSIN DNR Brodhead Independent-Register

The 2020 Wisconsin Groundwater Coordinating Council’s report to the legislature is now available for review.

groundwater research to protect and preserve groundwater resources.

The Groundwater Coordinating Council was formed in 1984 to help state agencies coordinate activities and exchange information about groundwater. Today, the council and its subcommittees regularly bring together staff from more than 10 different agencies, institutions and organizations to

communicate and work together on a variety of research, monitoring, data management, education and planning issues. These activities increase coordination between agencies to avoid duplication, create efficiencies and benefit Wisconsin’s taxpayers.

For more information, visit dnr.wi.gov and search “Groundwater Coordinating Council.”

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Applicants sought for Outstanding Teacher award

Agriculture educators are encouraged to apply for the Wisconsin Farm Bureau’s Ag in the Classroom program’s Outstanding Teacher Award.

Certified teachers currently integrating agricultural concepts into non-agricultural curricula in the pre-K through high school levels are eligible to apply. Applications may be from an individual teacher or a teaching team. Previous state winners and certified agricultural education instructors are not eligible.

Teachers must use agricultural information or materials within the classroom curriculum to assist students in learning the importance of agriculture. Learning activities may include, but are not limited to, understanding agriculture’s impact on personal lives, our

national heritage, the environment or the economy. Innovative and interdisciplinary programs are encouraged.

The state winner(s) will receive a plaque and \$500 to be used for educational resources or towards attending the 2021 National Ag in the Classroom Conference in Des Moines, Iowa. The winner(s) will also represent Wisconsin as the state’s nominee for the Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Award Program presented by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Ag in the Classroom program.

For application information, visit the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom website at wisagclassroom.org. The application must be postmarked by Oct. 15.

For more information, contact Wis-

consin Ag in the Classroom Coordinator Darlene Arneson at darneson@wfbf.com or 608.828.5644.

Farm Bureau’s Ag in the Classroom program provides K-12 teachers and students with an understanding of how their food is produced. The program seeks to work within existing curricula to provide basic information on our nation’s largest industry — agriculture.

Wisconsin’s Ag in the Classroom program is carried out by local educators, volunteers and representatives from agricultural organizations and businesses. The goal is to help students gain a greater awareness of the role of agriculture in the economy and society, so that they may become citizens who support wise agricultural policies.

Audit shows majority of calls for jobless benefits weren’t answered

BY WISCONSIN WATCH

Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development call centers answered just one out of every 200 calls from people seeking jobless benefits during a critical early stretch of the pandemic, according to a new state au-

dit that further quantifies the agency’s struggles to serve unemployed Wisconsiners.

From mid-March through June, 93.3% of 41.1 million calls were blocked or prompted busy signals, while callers abandoned an additional

6.2% of calls. That means less than 1% of callers reached a DWD representative about their claims, the Legislative Audit Bureau wrote in a report released recently.

The bureau also found that DWD officials in weekly updates reported incomplete data to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, failing to include millions of calls in which people got busy signals. The audit found that 19.6 million calls were either blocked or resulted in busy signals between late April and the end of June.

The audit comes a week after Gov. Tony Evers ousted Caleb Frostman as DWD secretary, citing an ongoing backlog of unemployment claims that have left jobless residents waiting weeks and even months for aid.

Responding to the audit, Deputy Secretary Robert Cherry accepted the bureau’s recommendations to improve recordkeeping and reporting of call center data, and highlighted the agency’s efforts to shift employees to call centers and expand their capacity during the pandemic.

“Never has the state experienced such an incredible surge in claims so quickly,” Cherry wrote, but added that “lessons should have been learned” about call center vulnerabilities years ago.

A 2014 state audit found that DWD call centers automatically blocked 80% of calls during times of high volume.

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Arts center rolls out spooky entertainment options for October

Officials at the Janesville Performing Arts Center are introducing new events and activities planned for October.

• JPAC and Friends Fall Fest outdoor concert will be held at 2 p.m. Oct. 10 in the green space next to the center. Local musicians, singers and actors will perform a variety of Broadway-inspired songs, scenes and stories.

To maintain safety and social distancing, a pod-style seating format will be used. Each pod can be reserved with up to six people per pod. Advance registration is required.

• Tales of Terror will take place from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Oct. 29 and Oct. 30 and from 2 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Oct. 31.

“Groups of four to six people will take on a journey through time and space as they encounter some of the most mystical and terrifying characters from the world of the macabre,” according to a JPAC news release. “Hear the twisted tales of a mad scientist and his creation and tortured souls describing their dastardly deeds. Listen to the “children of the night” as they wander among the gravestones where ghouls and witches gather on a full moon to cast their enchanted spells.”

Tours will depart every 15 minutes and reservations are required.



COURTESY PHOTO *Brodhead Independent-Register*

The fun ranges from creative to blood-curdling during October at the Janesville Performing Arts Center. Some of the local entertainment options include the Tales of Terror tours and a jack-o-lantern carving and decorating contest.

• Jack-O-lantern contest: Entries in the Jack-o-lantern carving/decorating contest will be displayed Oct. 29 through Nov. 1 and voted on by the patrons attending the Tales of Terror. Prizes will be awarded to the top entry in each of the following categories: 12 years and under, 13 to 17 and 18 and older.

Pumpkins are \$5 each and are available at JPAC from 1 p.m. to

4 p.m. Oct. 10 and Oct. 11. Entries must be returned to the center, 408 S. Main St., Janesville, by Oct. 27.

• “Harry Potter and Sorcerer’s Stone” will premiere at 2 p.m. Nov. 1. Reservations are suggested, as seating is limited.

For more information about these events and activities, contact JPAC box office at 698-758-0297 or go online to janesvillepac.org.



Libraries offer video lessons

Rock County’s public libraries are collaborating on a unique program series that officials say will benefit parents, teachers and young students.

The Library Shorts “will provide additional educational opportunities for families as they navigate this new learning environment,” according to a news release from the Arrowhead Library System, which includes Orfordville Public Library.

Library Shorts will feature one five- to 10-minute video lesson a day, for one week each month this autumn. Each video will tackle a different school subject with the week’s theme in mind.

In October, Library Shorts will help 4- to 10-year-olds learn about fall with mini-lessons in math, music, science, wellness/mindfulness, writing and art. In November and December, Library Shorts will explore the themes of community and celebration.

Videos will be posted on the Library Shorts blog at 8 a.m. Monday through Saturday Oct. 12 through Oct. 17 and can be completed at one’s leisure. To access the blog, go online to als.lib.wi.us/site/pages-for-patrons/library-shorts.



News from Parkview in Orfordville: Viking Times

THURSDAY, OCT. 1

• Orfordville library open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. (wear mask; 50% max capacity)

FRIDAY, OCT. 2

• Parkview School District, no school
• Orfordville library open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (wear mask; 50% max capacity); storytime at 11 a.m.

SATURDAY, OCT. 3

• Cross country high school quad at Baertschi Farm, 10 a.m.

SUNDAY, OCT. 4

• Orfordville library closed

MONDAY, OCT. 5

• Orfordville library open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. (wear mask; 50% max capacity)

TUESDAY, OCT. 6

• Orfordville library open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. (wear mask; 50% max capacity); Teen Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m.
• Cross country triangular meet at Bass Creek Golf Course, Janesville, 4 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 7

• Orfordville library open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. (wear mask; 50% max capacity)

Town to offer curbside voting

November’s general election is fast approaching and there are a few things Avon Town Clerk Stephanie Schwartzlow is asking voters to keep in mind

“The polling place is safe and we have procedures in place to keep you and the election staff safe,” Schwartzlow said in a news release.

• Curbside voting will be available in the town of Avon on Election Day, which is Nov. 3. Voters should pull into the town hall parking lot and call 608-897-8181 to have a member of the election

staff bring you a ballot.

• You can register to vote and request an absentee ballot on myvote.wi.gov any time of the day.

• In-person absentee voting starts Oct. 20. To make an appointment to vote, call 608-921-3656 or attend one of the in-person voting dates at the town hall. Those dates and times are 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23, and 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28.

For more information about elections, contact Schwartzlow at 608-921-3656.



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381221

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381817

Museum moves cemetery tours online



For a 23rd year, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum will continue its renowned Talking Spirits Cemetery Tours, but with a spin. The "Talking Spirits Cemetery Tours: Myths and Realities" will be presented as a 360-degree virtual tour, launching

Oct. 15 at MadisonCemeteryTours.com.

Due to current restrictions on gatherings by the city of Madison, the museum was unable to obtain a permit for the event at the historic Forest Hill Cemetery on Madison's near west side. However, museum staff members came up with a plan to tell the stories of Wisconsin veterans and others interred at the cemetery.

"This year's tour presents a unique challenge, and an equally unique opportunity," Chris Kolaowski, museum director, said in a news release. "Using virtual technologies to show you the cemetery, we can take you to remote locations on the grounds and provide you with more stories and details which we haven't been able to tell on previous tours."

Embedded in the virtual tour are

all the anticipated features of the in-person tour. It includes vignettes performed by actors, who bring to life the tales of four intriguing people.

"Learn about the man for whom Truax Field is named, Madison's oldest woman — who has a secret, a Civil War soldier who was shot in the head — and lived, and the captain's veteran gardener who suffered a tragic loss on the Fourth of July," the release said.

In addition to these tales of Wisconsinites from the past, museum guides share accounts of unique points of interest on the grounds, such as the Caitlin Chapel, Union Rest, Confederate Rest, the effigy burial mounds within the veterans section of the cemetery, stories from the 1918 Pandemic and more.

More information is available at MadisonCemeteryTours.com.

COURTESY PHOTO *Brodhead Independent-Register*

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Talking Spirits Cemetery Tours go virtual this year, with plenty of chances to enjoy stories real and mythical. Go online to madisoncemeterytours.com for information.

Legal Notices

BRODHEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT SNOW REMOVAL BIDS

Brodhead School District is accepting bids for snow removal for the 2020-2021 school year. Snow removal and salting is required for the parking lots, driveways and sidewalks of the high, middle and elementary schools on days when there is more than one (1) inch of snow. School lots, driveways and sidewalks need to be cleared by 7:15 a.m.

Bids will be submitted based on a fixed rate per snow removal. All bidders must show a Certificate of Insurance.

All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked on the outside "Snow Removal Bid" and mailed or delivered to Facility Supervisor Brian Kammerer; District Office; 2501 W. Fifth Avenue; Brodhead, WI 53520 by 12:00 p.m. Friday, October 9, 2020.

Awarding of the bids will be made as soon as possible after the opening of the bids. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any bid.

The Independent Register
9/23, 9/30/2020
WNAXLP

381361

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM Town of Decatur, Green County, Wisconsin

November 3, 2020
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at an election to be held in the Town of Decatur, on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, and the following question will be submitted to a vote of the people:

The Town of Decatur has authority to designate all Town Roads as ATV/UTV routes. This authority **DOES NOT** extend to the Sugar River State Trail. Should the Town of Decatur designate all Town Roads as permitted ATV/UTV routes (not including the Sugar River State Trail)?

A copy of the entire text of the resolution directing the submission of the question can be obtained from the office of the Town Clerk by calling 608-897-4965.

Acceptable Photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo ID you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Done in the Town of Decatur on 30th day of September, 2020.
/s/ Jamie E. Olson, Town Clerk
The Independent Register
9/30/2020
WNAXLP

381871

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF: City of Brodhead, Green and Rock Counties Town of Decatur, Green County Town of Spring Grove, Green County Town of Albany, Green County Town of Avon, Rock County Town of Spring Valley, Rock County Town of Magnolia, Rock County Village of Albany, Green County GENERAL ELECTION – NOVEMBER 3, 2020

VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT
Any qualified elector who is unable or unwilling to appear at the polling place on Election Day may request to vote an absentee ballot. A qualified elector is any U.S. citizen, who will be 18 years of age or older on Election Day, who has resided in the ward or municipality where he or she wishes to vote for

at least 28 consecutive days before the election. **The elector must also be registered in order to receive an absentee ballot. Proof of identification must be provided before an absentee ballot may be issued.**

You must make a request for an absentee ballot in writing.

Contact your municipal clerk and request that an application for an absentee ballot be sent to you for the primary or election or both. You may also submit a written request in the form of a letter. Your written request must list your voting address within the municipality where you wish to vote, the address where the absentee ballot should be sent, if different, and your signature. You may make application for an absentee ballot by mail or in person.

Making application to receive an absentee ballot by mail

The deadline for making application to receive an absentee ballot by mail is: Thursday, October 29, 2020 at 5 p.m.

Note: Special absentee voting application provisions apply to electors who are indefinitely confined to home or a care facility, in the military, hospitalized, or serving as a sequestered juror. If this applies to you, contact the municipal clerk regarding deadlines for requesting and submitting an absentee ballot.

Voting an absentee ballot in person

You may also request and vote an absentee ballot in the clerk's office or other specified location during the days and hours specified for casting an absentee ballot in person.

The first day to vote an absentee ballot in the clerk's office is:

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

The last day to vote an absentee ballot in the clerk's office:

Friday, October 30, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

No in-person absentee voting may occur on a weekend or legal holiday or on the day before the election.

The municipal clerk will deliver voted ballots returned on or before Election Day to the proper polling place or counting location before the polls close on November 3, 2020. Any ballots received after the polls close will not be counted.

Contact your municipal clerk listed below:

City of Brodhead, Nikolai Wahl

**1111 W. 2nd Avenue
PO Box 168
Brodhead, WI 53520
897-4018**

**Town of Sprig Grove,
Debra Cline**

**N2475 County Road GG
Brodhead, WI 53520
608-558-4787**

Town of Albany, Bonnie Zee

**N6065 County Rd E
Albany, WI 53502
608-862-3322**

Town of Decatur, Jamie Olson

**1408 - 14th Street, Town Hall
PO Box 333
Brodhead, WI 53520
897-4965**

Town of Spring Valley, Dela Ends

**17310 Footville Brodhead Rd
Brodhead, WI 53520
608-897-4288**

**Village of Albany,
Laurie Keepers**

**206 North Water Street
Albany, WI 53502
608-862-3240
Town of Avon,**

Stephanie Schwartzlow

**15444 W Skinner Rd
Brodhead, WI 53520**

**608-921-3656
Town of Magnolia,
Graceann Toberman
13343 W. County B
Brodhead, WI 53520**

608-876-6771

The Independent Register

9/30/2020

WNAXLP

381992

Town of Avon

Regular Monthly Meeting

Avon Town Hall
Tuesday

October 6th, 2020 – 7:30 p.m.

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Minutes from September Meeting
5. Treasurers Report from September
6. Citizen's Concerns
7. Lawyer – Tim Lindau
8. Bug Tussel
 - a. Discussion
 - b. Action
9. Township Website
 - a. Discussion
 - b. Action
10. Road Work
 - a. Discussion
 - b. Action
11. Wescott Trailer
12. Payment of Bills
13. Chairman's Comments
14. Adjournment

Maybe additional posting that will be posted 24 hours in advance.

The three posting places in the Town of Avon are Debbie Jean's, Sugar River Bank, and the Avon Town Hall. **Due to the lobby of the Sugar River Bank being closed, we will be using the Piggly Wiggly in Brodhead as a temporary posting location.**

Stephanie Schwartzlow
Avon Town Clerk

The Independent Register

9/30/2020

WNAXLP

382155

NOTICE

You are invited to submit a snow removal proposal for the School District of Albany for the 2020 – 2021 winter season. Consideration should be given to the cleaning of all blacktop surfaces, including driveways, parking areas, playgrounds and other areas as negotiated on the school grounds at Albany Public Schools. (Driveways and parking areas at the Albany School should be opened by 6:00 a.m. on school days and Scheduled Weekend Events.)

Please enter your quotation based on an hourly rate for the type of equipment you specify. If interested, please complete and return the form below, along with proof of insurance, **on or before 3:00 p.m. on October 9, 2020 to:**

Mr. Jim Briggs, Director of Building and Grounds School District of Albany PO Box 349 Albany, WI 53502 or email jim.briggs@albany.k12.wi.us

The School District of Albany, Board of Education reserves the right to award or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, or to accept the bid deemed most advantageous to the School District of Albany.

The Independent Register

9/30, 10/7/2020

WNAXLP

382193

Clinic receives award from hospital association

Monroe Clinic, a member of SSM Health, has received regional recognition as one of the Wisconsin Hospital Association's 100th Anniversary Value Award winners.

In honor of its 100 years, WHA offered the opportunity for member hospitals to apply for the 100th Anniversary Value Award. The award is based on the values of WHA — advocacy, integrity, foresight, relationships and leadership.

The application process involved Monroe Clinic sharing examples of the WHA values in action at its facilities and sharing how local processes and models positively impact daily work.

"One area that stood out to us was the coaching model that (Monroe Clinic) developed and embedded into (their) culture," Eric Borgerding, WHA president and CEO, said in a news release. "The ability of managers/coaches to engage, enable and empower their teams is not a minor task and it is evident that (they) do this consistently with intention and commitment."

For more information, go online to mornoeclinic.org/quality.

Grant looks to advance entrepreneurship in state

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. is now accepting applications from nonprofit and community-based organizations for a grant program designed to advance the statewide climate for entrepreneurship.

The Entrepreneurship Support Program provides financial assistance of between \$10,000 and \$100,000 for projects that promote entrepreneurship and provide Wisconsin entrepreneurs with key resources, including training, mentorship, business development and financial services.

Launched in 2016, the initiative has provided nearly \$2 million in grants to 32 organizations statewide to help fund activities such as prototyping assistance, legal services and outreach to underserved entrepreneurs. Those grants have enabled organizations to provide services to hundreds of entrepreneurs through a wide variety of initiatives.

While WEDC has a variety of programs to support the formation, development, growth and financing of technology-based and growth-oriented startup and early-stage businesses, this initiative provides funding to organizations and communities whose efforts may not meet the eligibility criteria for existing programs.

"The program has proven to be a catalyst in filling resource gaps, launching new initiatives and building strong community networks," said Aaron Hagar, WEDC's vice president of entrepreneurship and innovation. "We look forward to seeing what type of innovative grant proposals are developed to

provide entrepreneurs throughout the state with the support and resources they need to launch successful businesses."

"The Entrepreneurship Support Program is one of my favorite programs because we see new and creative solutions developed to assist Wisconsin entrepreneurs," said Ed Javier, WEDC's entrepreneurship program director. "I believe in the importance of having a startup mentality when it comes to finding ways to accelerate new businesses in Wisconsin, and this program is a great example of that."

The competitive program will provide grants that must be matched by the applicant. Funding can be used for personnel, professional services or materials directly related to the project, but may not be used for land, facility costs or equipment. Projects supported by the program must take place during calendar year 2021.

Applications are due Oct. 23, and will be evaluated on criteria including applicant capability, project alignment and feasibility, project and financial need, collaboration and potential impact. Application details and additional program information can be found at wedc.org/entrepreneurship-support.

The program is the part of WEDC's suite of entrepreneurship resources, which includes support for startup accelerators, seed capital funds, investment tax credits and technology development loans. In addition, WEDC supports and engages an existing statewide network of partners that offers business training, mentorship and financing to aspiring entrepreneurs.

Northern Illinois & Southern Wisconsin

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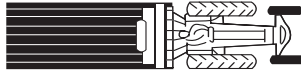
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BRODHEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT Full-Time Custodian

Brodhead School District has an opening for a full-time year around custodial position at Albrecht Elementary School. Advanced knowledge and work related experience required in: floor care, carpet care, and general knowledge in all aspects of sanitation and cleaning of buildings.

Hours are 2:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Occasional overtime and weekend work may be required.

Apply to Brian Kammerer, Building & Grounds Supervisor, Brodhead School District, 2501 W. Fifth Avenue, Brodhead, WI 53520, or call (608) 897-2141 Ext. 171.

Job description available upon request and application forms are available on the District website at www.brodhead.k12.wi.us.

Deadline for applications is October 7, 2020.

The School District of Brodhead does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, creed, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, ancestry, pregnancy, marital or parental status, physical condition or disability or any other category protected by law in its programs or activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, 2501 W. 5th Ave., Brodhead, WI 53520, (608) 897-2141.

BRODHEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT Part-time High School Special Education Para-Educator

The Brodhead School District is looking for a part-time, highly qualified, enthusiastic Special Education Para-Educator at our High School to meet diverse needs of students with disabilities. The ability to lift 50 pounds is required. The successful candidate will demonstrate excellent communication skills and ability to establish positive relationships with students, staff and parents. Hours are 7:45 a.m.-3:05 p.m. Monday-Friday. Days of employment are consistent with the school calendar. Rate of pay is \$11.50/hour.

Job description available upon request and application forms are available on the District website at www.brodhead.k12.wi.us.

Send letter of interest, resume, and application to: Ms. Sarah Wadsworth, Brodhead School District, 2501 W. 5th Ave., Brodhead, WI 53520, swadsworth@brodhead.k12.wi.us

Deadline for Applications: Open Until Filled

The School District of Brodhead does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, creed, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, ancestry, pregnancy, marital or parental status, physical condition or disability or any other category protected by law in its programs or activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, 2501 W. 5th Ave., Brodhead, WI 53520, (608) 897-2141.

EMPLOYMENT

PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHER

The Brodhead Police Department is accepting applications for 2 full-time Public Safety Dispatchers.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Answer 9-1-1 and administrative calls for public safety and after hours for City Departments. Dispatch public safety and city services to emergency and lower priority incidents. Operate radio, telephone, report management computer system. Perform clerical tasks, cash handling, and register vehicles. Position description available upon request.

QUALIFICATIONS: U.S. citizen; Minimum age - 18; Driver license; Good driving record; Good health condition; High school diploma or G.E.D.; No felony convictions; No domestic abuse convictions; Vision correctable to 20/20; Good verbal and written communication skills; React quickly and effectively to stressful situations; Able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays; Ability to use keyboard/type sufficient words per minute; Knowledge and skills in operating computers and Microsoft Office programs; Clear and concise speech; Ability to handle several tasks simultaneously; Ability to perform essential functions of this position; Ability to operate standard office equipment, computers, fax, etc. Ability to use Word, Excel, and Outlook programs. Ability to work afternoons, nights, and rotating shifts, as well as overtime.

WAGE AND BENEFITS: depending on qualifications \$16.00 - \$20.00 per hour; Retirement; Health, dental and life insurance; Sick and vacation leave; Shift differential and paid holidays; Clothing allowance.

ASSESSMENT: Written exam; Typing test; Oral interviews; Psychological profile; Medical examination; Vision examination; Drug screening; Background investigation.

TO LEARN MORE: Go to the Brodhead, Wisconsin Police Department Facebook page of City of Brodhead webpage. Apply by October 19, 2020.

BRODHEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT Part-time Middle School Special Education Para-Educator

The Brodhead School District is looking for a part-time, highly qualified, enthusiastic Special Education Para-Educator at our Middle School to meet diverse needs of students with disabilities. The ability to lift 50 pounds is required. The successful candidate will demonstrate excellent communication skills and ability to establish positive relationships with students, staff and parents. Hours are 10:15 a.m.-3:20 p.m. Monday-Friday. Days of employment are consistent with the school calendar. Rate of pay is \$11.50/hour.

Job description available upon request and application forms are available on the District website at www.brodhead.k12.wi.us.

Send letter of interest, resume, and application to: Ms. Sarah Wadsworth, Brodhead School District, 2501 W. 5th Ave., Brodhead, WI 53520, swadsworth@brodhead.k12.wi.us

Deadline for Applications: Open Until Filled

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DISCLAIMER NOTICE This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance.

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FOR SALE 2005 Duet Sport Whirlpool electric dryer, barely used. Asking \$400 OBO. 815-541-9729

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4-H recognizes award winners

Green County 4-H youth were recognized recently with college scholarships and other awards.

“This year’s winners were an exceptional group of young people who have worked hard during their 4-H careers and have very bright futures ahead of them,” according to a 4-H news release.

- Brenna Meier of the Dayton Dairylanders 4-H Club, Abigail Marty of New Glarus 4-H Club and Kaleigh Dallman of the Jolly Mixers 4-H Club were the winners of the \$500 Green County 4-H Adult Leaders Scholarship.
- The Green County 4-H Junior Leadership Scholarship requires that recipients be members of the 4-H Junior Leaders organization. The winners of the \$500 Junior Leaders Scholarships were Auburn Von Kaenel of Next Generation 4-H Club, Averey Marean of Juda Jolly Juniors 4-H Club and Margaret Paul of Next Generation 4-H Club.
- The Cindi Miller Memorial Scholarship, named in memory of longtime 4-H leader and supporter Cindi Miller, places greater emphasis on community service by the applicant. Winners of the \$1,000 Cindi Miller Memorial Scholarship were Kelli Polnow of the Cheese Country Clovers 4-H Club and Linnea Tabaka of the Young Americans 4-H Club.
- The 4-H Key Award is one of the highest awards given to a 4-H member during his or her career. It recognizes outstanding participation, leadership and growth. A member can only win the Key Award once. Winners of the 4-H Key Award this year were: Kelli Polnow, Averey Marean, Kaleigh Dallman and Margaret Paul.

“Green County 4-H wishes to congratulate all of the scholarship and award winners this year and looks forward to watching them grow as adults,” the release said.

For more information about Green County 4-H, contact Ellen Andrews, 4-H youth development educator, at 608-328-9440 or ellen.andrews@wisc.edu.

Fire protection group offers tips for charging your devices

With many students returning to school remotely this fall, the National Fire Protection Association urges added caution when using and charging laptops and other digital devices at home. According to NFPA’s most recent electrical fires report, an estimated average of 900 computer or computer equipment fires occurred in U.S. homes each year between 2014 and 2018, resulting in 50 civilian injuries and \$50 million in direct property damage.

“With students attending classes remotely and other family members continuing to work from home, many households may have more people using and charging electrical devices on a daily basis than usual,” said Lorraine Carli, vice president of outreach and advocacy at NFPA. “This additional use of equipment means more opportunity for misuse and misapplication, which can contribute to an increased fire risk.”

When it comes to using and charging laptops, smartphones and other digital devices, following simple precautions can help minimize the risk of electrical fires:

- Only use the charging cord that came with the device; avoid cords with conductive jackets.
- Discontinue use if device or charger becomes excessively hot or emits a burning smell.
- Make sure electrical cords and wires are in good condition. Discard frayed or damaged cords.
- Unplug devices when not in use to save energy and minimize the risk of shock and fire.
- Ensure that the plug is fully inserted into the outlet and remains that way while in use.

Even during this time of social distancing, electricians are still working and considered essential businesses. Call the utility company or a qualified electrician immediately when experiencing any of the following:

- Frequent problems with blowing fuses or tripping circuit breakers



COURTESY PHOTO *Brodhead Independent-Register*
Failing to discard frayed or damaged charging cords could pose a fire risk, officials with the National Fire Protection Association say.

- Discolored or warm wall outlets
 - Flickering or dimming lights
 - Sparks from an outlet
 - A plug no longer stays plugged into an outlet on its own
- NFPA offers many resources to help people use electrical equipment at home safely, along with a safety tip sheet that provide guidelines and recommendations for safely using devices that require lithium ion bat-

teries. For more information, go online to nfpa.org.

The National Fire Protection Association, founded in 1896, is a global self-funded nonprofit organization devoted to eliminating death, injury, property and economic loss due to fire, electrical and related hazards. All NFPA codes and standards can be viewed online for free at www.nfpa.org/freeaccess.

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