608-897-2193

SHOPPING NEWS

917 W. EXCHANGE STREET, BRODHEAD, WI 53520

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2021

Albany library plans solar project

A battle over the ballot......4

Parkview-Albany football hopes the run will spur success5





UP TO 12 MONTHS FREE

LOOK FOR RED & GREEN TAGS THROUGHOUT THE STORE FOR TREMENDOUS SAVINGS!























TWIN SIZE MATTRESSES **START AT \$99**

FULL SIZE MATTRESSES QUEEN SIZE MATTRESSES START AT \$199 START AT \$139









UP TO 12 MONTHS FREE FINANCING

FREE DELIVERY IN THE STATELINE AREA





SHOWROOM

in the Stateline Area for the Best Selection!

• LIFT RECLINERS

- ADJUSTABLE BED BASES
- ADJUSTABLE LIFT BEDS
- MASSAGE CHAIRS
- VIBRA THERAPY PLATFORMS

Visit us at www.monroefurniturecenter.net

APPLIANCES

FURNITURE

MATTRESSES

110 W. 6th on Monroe's West Side 608-325-9200

Mon.-Fri., 9-5 p.m.; Sat., 9-4 p.m.; Sun., 12-4 p.m.

Clearance Showroom 2581 6 ½ Ave. 608-426-6833 Mon.-Fri., 10-5 p.m.; Sat., 10-4 p.m.; Sun., 12-4 p.m.

Rock County seeks two to serve on Housing Authority

Rock County is seeking members of the public interested in serving on the Rock County Housing Authority, which provides oversight to HOME program revolving loan funds that are primarily used to help low- to moderate-income individuals repair and rehabilitate their homes in areas of the county generally outside Beloit and Janesville.

In addition, the Housing Authority may engage in other activities to address unsafe and unsanitary conditions, as authorized under state law.

Ideal candidates will have experience and/or interest in areas that include real estate, community development, finance, residential construction, social services, or business. Individuals will be appointed by the county board chair and are subject to confirmation by the Rock County

Appointees will serve a three-year term. There are currently two vacancies on the Housing Authority.

The Housing Authority meets as needed as determined by its members, but is not expected to meet more than once per month.

Those who are interested in being considered for appointment should submit an email or letter outlining why they are interested and qualified for this role. Applicants may also choose to submit a resume outlining their relevant experience.

Materials should be submitted via email to countyadmin@co.rock.wi.us or by mail to: Rich Bostwick, chair, Rock County Board of Supervisors, Rock County Courthouse, 51 S. Main St., Janesville, WI 53545.

The deadline for submitting application materials is 5 p.m. Friday, April 2.

Obituary

JESSICA SIMPLOT

Jessica Anne Simplot, age 33, passed away on March 6, 2021, while at the UW Hospital in Mad-

Jessica was born March 2, 1988, at Good Shepherd Hospital in Barrington, Illinois, the daughter of Mark and Carol (Morrison) Buick-

Jessica was married to Richard Simplot on July 19, 2014.

a math teacher at South Beloit High School. Jessica was a past volunteer for the Boys and Girls Club.



She enjoyed tutoring dents and enjoyed walking her dog, Sadie. Jessica

survived by her husband, Richard; her parents, Mark (Carol) Buickel; a brother,

Jessica was currently teaching as Matthew (Kristi) Buickel; a sister, Andrea (Shawn) Goodrich; several nieces and nephews; and her dog,

Jessica was preceded in death by both her maternal and paternal grandparents.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be directed to the family in her

A visitation and funeral service were held Thursday, March 11, at the DL Newcomer Funeral Home in Brodhead. Cremation rites will be accorded at a later date.

DL Newcomer Funeral Home is serving the family. Go online to www.dlnewcomerfuneralhome. com or call 608-897-2484 for more information.

Free online grief support group starts soon

Many people find it comforting experienced the death of someone to face grief with others experiencing similar challenges.

To help with the journey through grief, Monroe Clinic Hospice is holding a Walking Through Grief virtual education and support

open to adults over 18 who have

special.

A few discussion topics include: the importance of information and support as we grieve, understanding grief as a process and coping with the stress of grief.

The meetings will take place on-The support group is free and line. Access information will be sent after registration is received.

The group will meet from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays from March 24 through April 28. Participants are asked to register by Friday, March 19.

To register, go online to monroe clinic.org/griefsupport.

For more information, call Monroe Clinic Hospice at 608-324-1230 or 800-367-8406.

THE PROFESSIONALS

at Your Service . . .

Let us help your business grow, while you get more bang for your buck!



The Independent-Register FREE Shopping News is an invited guest in over 10,000 homes each week – to be included call 608-897-2193.

Murray's Auto Salvage, Inc.

Buy Junked & Wrecked Vehicles • Sell Used Parts Open Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed Sundays and Holidays

608-879-2525

6821 S. Nelson Road, Brodhead, WI

MONROE ONE HOUR CLEA

Ninth Street, Monroe • 608-325-5860

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Fri. 7 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Specializing in cleaning clothes of all types, draperies, comforters, pillows, wedding gown preservation, leather & suede jackets and dress shirts folded or on hangers and starched to your specifications.

DID YOU KNOW you can drop off and pick up items to be cleaned each Monday and Thursday at Pinnow Pharmacy in Brodhead?





Ryan Farm Quarries

608-879-2623

Wholesale & Retail Limestone 5 3/4", 1 1/2", 3" Breaker Rock



Kenmore • Whirlpool Maytag ● GE

= MOST BRANDS =

608-365-2893 608-290-2511

Don Thompson, Jr.

Don't Forget... Our deadline is at Noon!!!

Broadband Internet



Get Rural High-Speed Internet Service:

 No Phone Line Required! Local Technical Support!

No Monthly Data Limits!

For more info call toll free 888-825-2005 or visit us at 565 E. Main St, Evansville, or on the web at WWW.LITEWIRE.NET



Brodhead Dental Clinic

Dr. Dan Branson DDS dentist.brodhead@outlook.com

702 23rd St.

Brodhead, WI 53520

Mon. & Wed. 8am-5pm • Tues. 8am-7pm • Thurs. 8am-3pm • Closed Fri.

www.brodheaddental.com

Phone: (608) 897-8645



Brodhead, WI • Across from Subway

FREE LOANER CAR

When you need body work call us first. 608-897-8447



- Lifetime warranty on new vehicles with our "Wax N' Oil"
- Protect old vehicles and make them look good again with our "Back In Black" oil undercoating

Country Undercoating Vehicle Rust Prevention

380466



PHOTO COURTESY ALBERTSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY Brodhead Independent-Registe A project to install solar panels is set to begin soon at Albertson Memorial Library in Albany.

Albany library plans solar project

month on a project to install solar panels at the Albertson Memorial Library in Albany.

The solar panel array will "supply a substantial amount of the library's electrical power," according to a posting on the library's website.

The first step is replacing the roof on the center section of the library, which will start in April. After that s completed, a crew from Full

Spectrum Solar of Madison will begin installing the 72 solar panels.

The panel installation is expected to take two to three weeks. The project should be operational in

"When fully operational, this solar array will supply the library with approximately 60% of its electrical use," the web posting said. "Electricity is a major operational expense for the library. Installing

brary's operating expenses by over 10% and allow those funds to be used for other purposes.'

The project supported by a gift from Mary Ann Sucharski, a former Albany librarian; a grant from RENEW Wisconsin and its Solar for Good project; and Focus on Energy, Wisconsin's energy efficiency and renewable energy services

Habitat for Humanity eyes duplex project

Veterans given preference in latest Green County build

County has purchased a lot in Monroe where it will begin building a

duplex this spring. The organization will give preference to veterans (military, reserves or National Guard) in se-

lecting the homes' recipients but non-veterans may be eligible and should apply, according to a news

"Building a duplex allows us to realize substantial savings on construction so that we can offer two units," HHGC President Paula Elmer said in the release. "We hope to include veteran sub-contractors and plan to enlist vets as volunteers in the build process."

The duplex will be located at 509 and 511 Third Ave. in Monroe.

Bruce Sweeny, a Habitat volunteer, will serve as the project

Habitat for Humanity of Green veteran with experience in managing projects of varying complexity. Steve Zuber has been hired as general contractor. He served as the general contractor on the Habitat home built in New Glarus in 2018.

> Applications from qualified individuals and families are now being accepted.

Selection guidelines call for families or individuals who can make their monthly payments but who do not qualify for a conventional mortgage. There is a low down payment requirement and HHGC offers qualified families interest-free mortgages.

Hours of volunteer labor and donated materials and items help keep the costs of Habitat homes down. Professional subcontractors are hired as necessary.

specific guidelines and agree to put their own labor into the project.

Go online to www.greencounty habitat.org for more information about how to apply.

"Submitting an application is the first step to see if there is a good fit between the applicant and the home," the news release said.

Veterans will need to produce proof of honorable discharge (DD214) as part of the application

"Green County Habitat for Humanity believes that everyone should have a safe, affordable place to call home," the release said.

The local chapter has built homes for 23 families. The organization has also participated in numerous home repair projects and operates a resale store at 305 Second St. in To qualify for a Habitat home, Monroe that offers usable housemanager for the build. Sweeny is a individuals/families must meet hold and construction items.

Conservation Congress spring hearing set

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources recently announced that annual spring hearings will be held online because of in that county. the COVID-19 pandemic.

The public will have the opvisory questions from the natural the online input opportunity.

The 2021 Spring Hearing online input webpage will go live at 7 p.m. on April 12 and will remain open for three days. Results will be posted as soon as they are available.

This year there are 23 proposed rule changes related to fisheries and five proposed rule changes related to wildlife management. There are also advisory questions from fisheries, the natural resources board and the Wisconsin Conservation Congress.

Residents can also recommend changes to natural resource issues by submitting citizen resolutions online at dnr.wisconsin.gov. To do so, review the frequently asked questions, click "submit a resolution" and follow the directions from there.

All citizen resolutions must be received by 5 p.m. April 5. Those (April 12-15) will be able to see the resolutions that were submitted by individuals indicating they reside

This has been a challenging tions are canceled for this year. year for everyone around the state our communities while continuing to serve, the seat will become vapublic to weigh in on these important natural resources issues," said Tony Blattler, chair of the WCC.

"I hope that everyone interested in the issues being discussed will use the online option to provide their input. We understand the value of the in-person meeting for our top priority is the health and safety of Wisconsinites," he added.

Typically, county residents would have the option to run for a wisconsin.gov.

who complete the online input form seat on the conservation congress - and to elect delegates from their county to represent their county views regarding natural resources. However, due to COVID-19, elec-

"We will be extending the terms portunity to provide input on the and the country. We want to contin- of each of the WCC delegates by proposed natural resources rule ue to do our part to minimize the another year," Blattler said. "If a changes from the DNR, and ad- spread and impact of this virus on current delegate no longer wishes resources board and WCC through to provide an opportunity for the cant and the county chair can appoint someone to fill the remainder of the term."

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress is the only statutory body in the state where the public elects delegates to advise the Natural Resources Board and the Department of Natural Resources on how to discussion and sharing of ideas, but responsibly manage Wisconsin's natural resources for present and future generations.

For more information, visit dnr.

JERRY LEE – TAX ASSOCIATES

NEW LOCATION! 1035 1st Center Ave. • Brodhead 608-897-9348 • 608-897-6266

Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. & Sat. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Jerry Lee Home - 608-879-2883

Darren Yirek - 608-295-9311 (QuickBooks expert & Enrolled Agent)

Sign up online for Albany egg hunt

in the 36th annual Albany Easter Egg Hunt, slated for Saturday,

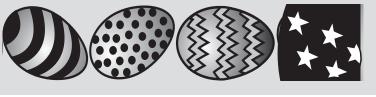
To sign up for a time, go online to www.signupgenius.com/ go/10c0e4caeaa2fa2fa7-albany.

The hunt will be held from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Albany school playground. Children in fourth grade and younger are welcome to participate.

Social distancing will be expected and sanitizing stations will be available.

Families should bring their own baskets to collect eggs. In the event of inclement weather or poor field conditions,

participants should meet in the new commons area at the main entrance of the school.



The family of Lois M. Harvey

Thank you so much to each and everyone that has reached out to our family. We're so thankful for all your condolences, kind words and love.

A special thank you to Collinwood Memory Care and all their dedicated employees and Agrace Hospice Care for their compassion and care.

All memorial donations have been donated to Agrace Foundation.

Our heartfelt thanks to you all, John Harvey, Rosemary, Diane and Gerri



Albany Comet News

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

- -Albany Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Albany school playground (Sign-up required at www.signupgenius.com/ go/10c0e4caeaa2fa2fa7-albany)
- -Albertson Memorial Library closed

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

No events scheduled

MONDAY, MARCH 22

-Albertson Memorial Library curbside pickup, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

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

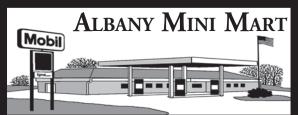
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

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

· Denotes a community event.

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

SPONSORED BY:



• Piccadilly Pizza • Maple Leaf Cheese • • Charley Biggs Chicken •

ATM • Car Wash • Liquor Store 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

Hwy. 59 (next to Sugar River Bike Trail) 608-862-3303

A battle over the ballot

Bids to alter state elections fall mostly along partisan lines

By Anya van Wagtendonk WISCONSIN WATCH

Proposals to change Wisconsin's voting system could determine how one of America's top swing states picks congressional candidates, how it awards its 10 Electoral College votes, how fast results can be announced and who can use the increasingly popular method of absentee voting.

But the political divisiveness that caused Wisconsin to flip from red to blue by the slimmest of margins in the 2020 presidential race will likely continue, stymying all but the few changes that enjoy bipartisan support. A Republican-led Legislature and a Democratic governor mean that purely partisan priorities are unlikely to make their way through, experts told Wisconsin Watch.

And a sweeping Democratic bill to broaden access to voting and thwart partisan gerrymandering nationwide faces a steep climb in the U.S. Senate after passing the House on a party-line vote late Wednesday.

In recent weeks, lawmakers nationwide have proposed hundreds of bills to change states' voting laws in the wake of the contentious November presidential election. Wisconsin is no

Democrats are generally seeking to make it easier to vote, citing national security assessments that the 2020 contest was among the most secure ever. Republicans insist the high-turnout election was rife with fraud – although election officials of both parties and judges at all levels have rejected those allegations - and are generally seeking to add more restrictions and safe-

In late February, Republicans in the Wisconsin Legislature began circulating a slate of bills that would, among other changes, tighten absentee voting and the definition of "indefinitely confined" voters, two components challenged by President Donald Trump's campaign in Democratic-majority Dane and Milwaukee counties in a failed attempt to throw out votes. Three Democratic members of the Assembly Elections Committee called the proposals "a full-on assault on our elections and the ability for Wisconsinites to vote."

But dramatic changes to Wisconsin's election laws are unlikely in the short term, said David Canon, a political scientist at University of Wiscon-

"Any efforts aimed at making it easier to vote aren't going to happen because the Republican leadership and state Legislature won't want to do that. Anything that's aimed at restricting access to voting won't happen because (Democratic Gov. Tony) Evers would veto that, and they wouldn't have enough votes to override the veto, Canon said. "I think we're in status quo mode for the next two years, at least, with nothing really changing.'

A spokesperson for Evers declined comment on which bills he was likely to sign or veto, but referred Wisconsin Watch to the governor's proposed budget, which includes proposals to establish automatic voter registration; expand the timeline on absentee voting; and require the Legislature to consider the recommendations of Evers' People's Maps Commission when drawing new political boundaries this year.

Atiba Ellis, a law professor at Marquette University who focuses on voting rights, said both election security and voter access are important. "They do not have to be at odds," Ellis said. "But I think for politically motivated reasons they are put at odds, and that then justifies passing laws that are stricter than what the political science data says they need to be."

There is some bipartisan agreement, including a proposal to bring rankedchoice voting to Wisconsin. In that system, congressional primaries would be nonpartisan, with the top five finishers, regardless of party, moving on to the general election, when they would be ranked by voters.

Another bipartisan idea, which failed to make it through the last session, would allow clerks to process absentee ballots before Election Day, which supporters say would enhance voter confidence by preventing a delay in declaring statewide winners.

According to the Brennan Center for Justice, 43 states are weighing more than 250 bills to restrict voter access, largely on the basis of claims of electoral fraud in 2020 - claims that have been widely disproven and rejected by local, state and federal courts.

At the same time, a different set of 43 states is weighing at least 704 bills that would expand voting access. Lawmakers are particularly focused on absentee voting, the Brennan Center found, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, which kept a significant portion of the electorate from going to the polls on Election Day.

Process ballots sooner

In Wisconsin, Republicans and Democrats find some agreement around when absentee ballots can be processed. Wisconsin law bars processing until polls open on Election Day. In November, this meant that workers at Milwaukee's central count, for example, worked until the wee hours of the morning, opening, unfolding and running hundreds of thousands of ballots through tabulating machines.

The Trump campaign capitalized on the late-night count to falsely claim that Milwaukee had "dumped" ballots that swung the election for President Joe Biden.

'What people didn't understand is those votes came in in Milwaukee at 2 in morning because that was the first time the elections officials had the chance to get to the machines and feed in the ballots," said Kathleen Dolan, a professor of political science at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

An easy fix would be to allow absentee ballots to be processed in advance of Election Day, experts say. In the last legislative session, lawmakers debated bipartisan legislation to allow this to happen – but the bill languished amid disagreement over the details, including how different municipalities would adapt that practice.

Republican lawmakers are again taking up the issue, but divisions are emerging over whether to opt for early processing, or change the rules for early voting. Rather than placing ballots in envelopes that election workers process later, some lawmakers are proposing letting early in-person voters



Sen. Duey Stroebel, R-Saukville, is seen at the Capitol in Madison in this file photo. Stroebel has sponsored several bills to add restrictions on absentee voting, which he says are aimed at boosting voter confidence in elections.

directly feed their ballots into voting machines.

Diane Coenen, Oconomowoc city clerk and former president of the Wisconsin Municipal Clerks Association, favors the latter method. Coenen said that allows voters to remake their ballot immediately in the event of an error – rather than discovering a rejected ballot on Election Day. It would also buy time for clerks and poll workers to work with in-person voters, without needing to also process all absentee ballots at the same time.

"In today's political environment," Coenen added, "everyone wants the results fast."

Congress mulls big changes

Nationally, Democratic lawmakers are pushing a sweeping voting reform package, HR 1, which includes measures including automatic voter registration and barring voter ID and witness requirements for mail-in voting. It also seeks to reduce "dark money" in campaigns and require states to create nonpartisan redistricting commissions to thwart partisan gerrymandering.

Republicans have decried the package, and Trump attacked it during a speech at the Conservative Political Action Conference. They argue that the bill would restrict free speech and allow the federal government to take away states' rights. Many also oppose changes to redistricting processes.

The ACLU has also called for changes to some campaign finance and lobbying provisions in the bill, saying they would limit free speech and could harm political advocacy.

The bill has passed in the House, but, in the face of this opposition, pundits say it faces a steep hill towards passage in the Senate. It would need unanimous Democratic support - and 10 GOP votes unless the Senate filibuster rules are changed - to land on Biden's desk. He has signaled that he will sign it.

On Sunday, the president took his own action, issuing an executive order requiring federal agencies to expand dissemination of information about registration and voting and studying ways to improve access for military and overseas voters, Native American voters, voters with disabilities and people in federal custody. Biden issued the order to mark the 56th anniversary of "Bloody Sunday," when troopers beat and tear-gassed voting rights activists, including the late Rep. John Lewis, in Selma, Alabama.

Electoral College, drop boxes

Wisconsin is one of several states also considering changing how to award electors.

As proposed, Wisconsin would award them by congressional district,

See BALLOT, Back Page

Black Hawk FFA Consignment Auction

Saturday, April 3, 2021 Starting at 9:00 AM Auction Location: 110 E Murray Street, Browntown, WI 53522



ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS & DONATIONS

March 22nd through April 2nd

Farm-Construction Equipment-Feed & Livestock **Equipment-Landscaping Equipment**

Lawn & Garden Equipment-ATV's, UTV's & Motorcycles Vehicles & Trailers-Tools-Shop Equipment-Antiques Clean Household Items & Furniture and More!

Consignment Contact Information:

Scott Nelson: 608-558-2474 Powers Auction Service: 608-439-5760

All Commissions Collected Will Be Donated to the Black Hawk FFA! Auction will be held Indoors - Rain or Shine! Seating is Available!

Lunch served by the Black Hawk FFA! Visit www.powersauction.com For More Details, Information & Auction Photographs!



Donations Appreciated owers AUCTION SERVICE

110 E Murray St. Browntown, WI 53522 Phone: 608-439-5760 powersauctionsvc@gmail.com





A Heritage of Serving Local Agriculture Since 1882

- Machinery Loans
- Livestock Loans
- Lines of Credit
- Farm Improvement Loans
- Real Estate Loans
- Financial Planning
- Leasing

Parkview-Albany hopes the run game will spur success

CORRESPONDENT

The Parkview-Albany Vikings football squad is coming off a disappointing season where they finished with a record of 1-8. It has been more than a year since the co-op last stepped on the field, but the last time they did, they picked up an impressive 60-32 win over Living Word Lutheran. Head coach Bob Myers is hoping to build off that final regular-season game to turn their record around this year.

The team lost only four seniors to graduation in 2020 and will return a number of starters on both sides of the ball. In fact, the Vikings return their top four contributors in the run game from last year, starting with senior running back Korben Brown, who ran for just under 400 yards and three touchdowns in 2019. Returning with him are a pair of juniors in Jevon Ferguson and Charlie Vogt, who combined for 639 yards and five touchdowns last year. Senior Jericho Schwartzlow also returns to the backfield after rushing for 279 yards and three touchdowns in 2019. Together, the group gives Myers a plethora of options in the backfield and allows him to rotate players, keeping

Despite losing their top receivers in Calvin Barlass and Nevin Crane, if the Vikings can develop a strong running attack, it should open up passing lanes for new receivers to take advantage. Ferguson being a mobile quarterback

should help to stretch the field and get players open in space. If Myers can find a way to develop Ferguson's accuracy down the field, it will make things easier on their run game, allowing the Vikings to attack their opponent's

Although the offense should be much improved with their experience at the varsity level, it is the defense that will determine Parkview-Albany's success. As a team, the Vikings allowed more than 300 points last season, nearly doubling the amount of points their offense scored.

The good news is the team returns their leading tackler in senior linebacker Luke Schwengels, who racked up 112 total tackles in 2019 to go along with eight tackles-for-loss and two forced fumbles. If his play can continue to develop at the linebacker position, Schwengels could be one of the better linebackers in the area as he leads the way for the Viking defense.

Schwartzlow gives a boost to their pass coverage as he is coming off a season with three interceptions. With Schwengels stopping the run game and Schwartzlow defending the pass, the two give Myers key pieces to build his defense around.

The Vikings will kick off their 2021 alternate season with an away game at Poynette on Friday, March 26. They will follow that up with a second away game against Deerfield on Thursday,



March of the cranes

Sandhill cranes have returned to the area with a reminder that spring is on its way. The majestic birds make their way back to Wisconsin in March after spending the winter months in Florida. Cranes choose a mate as early as 4 years old and will spend 25 to 30 years with the same mate.

Outdoor activities up during pandemic

tion in outdoor activities during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the Wisconsin Policy Forum. And while the durability of this shift is uncertain, forum officials say policymakers may wish to consider it as they craft budgets for public lands and recreational and conservation programs.

With unemployment soaring and many activities curtailed, outdoor pastimes were among the few available that allowed social distancing. Park visits, sporting goods sales and fishing licenses all shot upward as well, especially during the early months of the pandemic.

Much of this trend may subside once employment and indoor entertainment options revert to pre-pandemic levels. But if at least some share of the increase proves durable, the implications could be significant. As they begin crafting upcoming budgets, state and local officials may want to give thought to whether spending levels on parks, public lands, boat ramps, and other green space are adequate to handle the recent increase in demand.

Of particular note is the wide scope

participation, including the following:

· After years of decreases in fishing license sales, Wisconsin saw a substantial jump in 2020. From March 2020 through January 2021, the state saw a 13.2% increase over the same period of 2019 in fishing license sales to state residents, which reached their highest level in at least five years. Also up were licenses sold to out-of-state and first-

• License sales for deer hunting and first-time hunting licenses increased in 2020, particularly notable given their previous downward trends.

• Sales of state park vehicle stickers rose more than 42% in 2020 from 2019. From last April through December, annual trail pass sales for all-terrain and utility terrain vehicles rose 32.7% over 2019, hitting their highest level in a decade of available data.

· Activity in, and visits to, local and federal public spaces across Wisconsin also saw notable increases. Examples include sales of cross-country ski permits in the city of Madison, bike path

See ACTIVITIES, Back Page

Orfordville student shines in college business competition

Josh Lichtfuss of Orfordville is among the Blackhawk Technical College students who will move onto the national Business Professionals of America competition later this

Lichtfuss and several of his fellow BPA students placed in the top three at the recent virtual BPA State Leadership Conference, making them eligible for the next level of competi-

Lichtfuss, a business management student, had top-three finishes in a

• First place, advanced interview skills, ethics and professionalism, digital marketing concepts

 Second place, business law and ethics, administrative support concepts, project management concepts

· Third place, parliamentary procedure concepts, digital communication and design concepts, information technology concepts

In addition, he received an Outstanding Chapter Member award.

A team made up of Lichtfuss and

This is

your chance to

promote your organization or special event!

Janesville students Natalie Sullivan and Mallory Worden came in first place in the small business management team competition.

"The BPA state and national conferences give students a chance to use their knowledge gained at BTC in a different context," Joel Schleusner, BPA adviser and business management instructor, said in a news release. "This is especially true in the judged events, where they react to cases and scenarios and display their knowledge to experienced judges."

You ought to be in pictures! THIS IS AN OPEN CALL FOR SUBMITTED PHOTOS TO BE USED IN YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ▼ Community events, car washes, festivals, lemonade

stands, school projects - people at work and at play.

We are interested!

▼ Show the community what your group has been doing!

▼ NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!

- ▼ Just shoot and e-mail!
- ▼ We need you to ID everyone in the photo first and last names required
- ▼ Tell us what's happening in the photo
- ▼ Please do NOT crop your photos.
- ▼ Tell us who took the photo and we will give them a photo credit

E-mail your photos at the highest possible resolution to: news@indreg.com BY NOON ON FRIDAY

PHOTOS MAY ALSO APPEAR ON OUR WEBSITE, **indreg.com**

THURSDAY, MARCH 18

Orfordville library open, 11 a.m.

- Orfordville library book club
- meeting, 6 p.m. FRIDAY, MARCH 19

• Orfordville library open, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; storytime at 11 a.m.

Parkview varsity football scrimmage at Clinton, 5 p.m. SATURDAY, MARCH 20

- Orfordville library open, 9 a.m. to noon
- Parkview varsity volleyball at Abundant Life Christian School,

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

Orfordville library closed

MONDAY, MARCH 22 • Orfordville library open, 11 a.m.

News from

Parkview in Orfordville:

- to 7 p.m. Parkview School Board Policy Committee meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- · Orfordville Village Board meeting, 7 p.m.
- Parkview varsity volleyball vs. Horicon, 7 p.m.
 TUESDAY, MARCH 23

to 7 p.m.

- Orfordville library open, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. • Parkview varsity volleyball vs.
- Montello, 7 p.m. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24 • Orfordville library open, 11 a.m.



6 • Wednesday, March 17, 2021 - The Independent-Register Call 608.897.2193 or 262.728.3411 to place your ad

Rock Valley Publishing ISSITIC

AD DEADLINE: **Friday** at $4 \, \mathrm{pm}$

SERVING NORTHERN ILLINOIS AND SOUTHERN WISCONSIN

employment

for sale

rentals & real estate

automotive

services offered

help wanted

Kuhn North America, Inc. in Brodhead, WI is a global leader in the agricultural machinery industry!

Parts Inventory Planner - The Parts Inventory Planner is responsible for the accurate planning, scheduling, and expediting of repair parts to satisfy current customer demand and anticipated demand by utilizing and maintaining electronic tools and product/process knowledge. Responsibilities include reviewing system reports to determine appropriate ordering, initiate parts expediting activities, creating/maintaining item data, and review/implement change notices. Experience working in an inventory control environment is required. Knowledge of and experience in the areas of customer service, inventory, logistics, agricultural equipment and intermediate computer skills (MS Word and Excel, ERP/AS400, Internet, and e-mail is preferred.

Assembly (1st & 2nd Shift) - The position involves assembly and installation of subassemblies, parts and options on unit shells. The position requires a mechanical aptitude, the ability to operate a forklift and power tools, interpret blueprints and measuring devices, and perform basic math functions.

CNC Machinist (1st, 2nd & 4th Shift) - The position requires set up and operation of machining equipment including various drill presses, manual/CNC lathes and mills. The position requires the ability to operate measuring and material handling equipment, read blueprints and perform basic math functions. A vocational diploma in machine tool and production machining experience is preferred.

Fabrication (1st, 2nd & 4th Shift) - Seeking operators of fabrication equipment including shear, brake press, punch press, saw and NC backgauge. The position requires the ability to read blueprints, complete fabrication measurements, operate forklift, overhead crane, and sheet lifters. Experience operating fabrication equipment is preferred.

Material Handler (1st, 2nd & 4th Shift) - Seeking individuals with forklift experience to transport of required cell components from receiving, warehouses & department staging areas. Individual is required to read basic blueprints, maintain and complete accurate documentation & inventory. Ability to use computer warehouse receiving and inventory systems is preferred.

Paint Prep (1st & 2nd Shift) - This general labor position involves preparation of the unit for the paint process; power washing, scraping, sanding, and material handling. The ability to use basic hand tools is required, with occasional forklift operation.

Welder (1st, 2nd & 4th Shift) - Seeking skilled welders to weld unit shells, sub-assemblies and components. A vocational diploma in welding or a minimum of two years production welding experience is required. Experience in GMAW and flux cored arc welding, blue print reading and operating material handling equipment is preferred.

Visit our website at www.kuhn-usa.com to view other manufacturing and professional employment opportunities!

Manufacturing production shift schedules are: first shift runs M- Th 5:00 AM - 3:00 PM and second shift runs M - Th, 3:30 PM - 1:30 AM: fourth shift runs F-Su 5:00 AM - 5:00 PM. A high school diploma or GED is required for any position. We offer a competitive wage and complete benefit package (health, life, dental, and disability insurance, paid vacations and holidays, 401(k), and tuition reimbursement) for full-time positions. Pre-employment drug screening is required. Complete application at:

Kuhn North America. Inc.

1501 West Seventh Avenue, Brodhead, WI 53520

LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Salary: \$10.00 hourly

Job Type: Part-Time/Occasional (10 hours/ month minimum, up to 40 hours/month)

Closing: April 2, 2021

For consideration, please send a resume or application letter to Clinton Public Library, Attention: Director, P.O. Box 487, Clinton, WI 53525 or email langer.joseph@als.lib.wi.us

> Please visit www.als.lib.wi.us/CPL for further details.

Don't wait! Call today to place your classified ads with the Rock Valley Publishing newspapers. Call 608-897-2193. FIND YOUR NEXT AUTO IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

business & service

Misc Services

BECOME A PUBLISHED Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920. Book manuscript submissions currently bereviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for Your Free Author's Guide 1-888-612-0710 or visit http://dorranceinfo.com/nnwi

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-480-6097 www. dental50plus.com/nnwi #6258

GENERAC STANDBY GENERA-TORS provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prépare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-888-355-6955

Other Services Offered

HAILE TREE SERVICE licensed and insured, aerial bucket and stump removal. 24 hr. emergency service 608-879-9014

FIND BARGAINS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS



Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V/H

50⁺Bakery **Positions**

STARTING @ \$14/ per hour

Apply Today!

TEXT ColonyJobs to 97211 OR APPLY ONLINE @ ColonyBrands.com

COVID safety measures in place.

olony BRANDS

800-487-9477

TOWN OF DECATUR - POSITION AVAILABLE

The Town of Decatur is seeking applicants for the position of Clerk/Treasurer. This is a part-time appointed position. Applicants should have good computer skills, accounting knowledge, and good people skills. Paid training is available. For more information, visit the Town website at www.townofdecatur.com or contact the Town Hall at 608-897-4965. Applications should include contact information and resume and be to the Town of Decatur by March 24, 2021, by mail: P.O. Box 333, Brodhead, WI 53520; by email: clerktreasurer@townofdecatur.com; or in person: 1408 14th Street, Brodhead, WI.

transporta

Automobiles

1995 CABRIO: Convertible. New battery/brake lines/brain box. 110 mlg. 847-477-6384 or 696-3289.

2006 SATURN ION 200K mi.,

CORVETTE COUPE 1989 Blk/ Blk, low miles, ga. kept. \$7,500 firm. 262-749-0356

758-1807

2007

Wanted TOP DOLLAR FOR YOUR FULL SIZE JUNK TRUCKS & SUV's Haul away 7 days a week. 262-

Automobiles

2007 CHEVY MALIBU 32K mi,

runs good, new tires. asking \$3400.815-369-4112

2007 FORD 500 LIMITED 101K,

tires,trailer brakes, 3rd row. Call

EXPEDITION

Best offer. 262-989-4112

FORD

or text 262-989-4112

Trucks & Trailers

2000 F200 with Sno-Way down pressure plow. cap & bedliner 66K, new tires, 1 owner. \$4,000. 262-249-6174

2017 MERCEDES BENZ CAR-GO VAN Excel., condition, Hitop, 2500 series, many extras. \$29.500 OBO Call Rich 630-742-



for

Apartments

MEADOW PARK APARTMENTS 703 Meadow Park Drive, Clinton. One bedroom apartment, includes stove, refrigerator, all utilities, laundry room, locked lobby and parking. You pay 30% of income for rent. Equal Housing Opportunity. 608-676-4278.

estate

Other Real Estate

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE All rea estate advertising in this newspa-per is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to ad vertise any preference. Ilmitation or discrimination based on race color, religion, sex, disability, familiar/ status or national origin or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians pregnant women and people se curing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not know ingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimina tion call HUD toll-free at 1-900 669-9777. The toll-free tele phone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275. EQUAL is 1-800-927-9275. ECHOUSING OPPORTUNITY

For details on placing an ad in our Classified Section Call 608-897-2193

Announcements

CLASSIFIED IN-COLUMN ADS cannot be credited or refunded after the ad has been placed. canceled before deadline will be removed from the paper as a service to our customers. but no credit or refund will be issued to your account.

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

Notice

OWN LAND IN WISCONSIN? Our hunters will pay top \$\$ to lease your land. Call now for free into packet 1-866-309-1507 www.basecampleasing.com Ref#WI11721

Wanted to Buy

FREON WANTED: We pay \$\$\$ for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R113 R114. Convenient Certified Professionals, Call 312-291-9169 or visit RefrigerantFind-

Legal Notices

SOLICITATION FOR BIDS

Project #21-23 Albany Housing Authority Albany, WI

Written proposals for the work described herein will be received until 1:00 pm, local time, Monday, April 5th by Albany Housing Authority, on behalf of the Board of Commissioners and Executive Director (authorized agent for Albany Housing

Authority). COVID-19 impact to bid submittal/ delivery: Please be aware that bid submittal for this project will be accepted by mail through the United States Postal Service, as well as delivery services including, but not limited to, FedEx, UPS, DHL and other similar delivery/courier services or at directoralbanyaha@ gmail.com. No hand delivery of bids will be allowed or accepted. Mailing address is: Albany Housing Authority, 101 W Main Street, Albany, WI 53502

Description of Work

Remove and dispose of 32 bathtubs

Install walk-in shower units with corner seat to include non-slip base Install all water fixtures to include grab bars, 6 ft. shower hose, faucets

Install bathroom vanity cabinet Install new flooring where needed Perform any other work needed to complete the project

Plans and specifications may be obtained by contacting Dawn Cronin at <u>directoralbanyaha@gmail.</u> <u>com</u>.

Contractors wishing to bid must carry insurance and provide a Certificate of Insurance to Albany Housing Authority.

Contractors wishing to bid must comply with Davis-Bacon Labor rules.

Federal Requirements: This project is federally funded, and federal provisions and requirements apply to include: Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Affirmative Action, Governmentwide Debarment and Governmentwide Suspension, Requirements for Drug-free Workplace.

The Independent Register 3/17, 3/24/2021

WNAXLP

NOTICE TO CITY OF **BRODHEAD RESIDENTS PUBLIC TEST OF ELECTRONIC VOTING EQUIPMENT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a **PUBLIC TEST** of the automatic tabulating equipment will be held on Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at 11:00 **a.m.** at City Hall located at 1111 W. 2nd Avenue. This equipment will be used at the **Spring Election** to be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021. This public test is open to the general public and includes a demonstration of the ImageCast Evolution (ICE) electronic voting system.

Nikolai Wahl

391272

City of Brodhead, City Clerk The Independent Register

3/17/2021 WNAXLP 391786

STATE OF WISCONSIN,

CIRCUIT COURT, **GREEN COUNTY** IN THE MATTER OF

THE NAME CHANGE Aidan Elihu Bjerkaas

By (Petitioner) Aidan Elihu Bjerkaas By (Co-Petitioner) Julie Ann Riese

Notice and Order for Name Change Hearing

Case No. 21 CU 40 NOTICE IS GIVEN:

A Petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:

From: Aidan Elihu Bjerkaas To: Aidan Elihu Riese

Birth Certificate: Aidan Elihu Bjer-

IT IS ORDERED: This Petition will be heard in the

Circuit Court of Green County, State of Wisconsin:

Judge's Name: Judge James R. Beer

Place: Green Co. Justice Center (Appear by Zoom), Monroe, WI 53566

Date: 4-20-2021 Time: 9:30 a.m.

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability

please call 608-328-9433 prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED:

Notice of this hearing shall be given by publication as a Class 3 notice for three (3) weeks in a row prior to the date of the hearing in the Brodhead Register, a newspaper published in Green County, State of Wisconsin.

The Independent Register 3/17, 3/24, 3/31/2021 **WNAXLP** 391707

NOTICE TOWN OF MAGNOLIA REQUEST FOR BIDS

The Town of Magnolia is seeking bids for two mowing jobs. The Town of Magnolia reserves

the right to reject any and all bids.

1. East Magnolia Cemetery located by the Magnolia Advent Christian Church. Needed is someone to mow, trim and keep the cemetery clear of debris (sticks, tree limbs and leaves) and to empty the waste barrel when needed. This cemetery is 1.82 acres. It can be mowed a maximum of 15 times

per year. Applicant must have proof

equipment needed. 2. Magnolia Town Hall - located at 14729 W. County Road A, Evansville, WI 53536. Needed is someone to mow, trim and keep lawn clear of debris (sticks, tree limbs and leaves). This parcel, including the building and parking lot, is 1 acre. It can be mowed a maximum of 15 times per year. Applicant must have proof of insurance and must supply lawn mower, trimmer and any other equipment needed.

Please submit sealed bids by April 16, 2021 to:

Town of Magnolia Graceann Toberman, Clerk/Treasurer 13343 W. County Road B Brodhead, WI 53520

The bids will be opened at the April 20, 2021 regular monthly meeting of the Town Board. The Independent Register

3/17/2021 WNAXLP

391973

NOTICE TOWN OF MAGNOLIA

There will be a public test of the electronic voting equipment on Monday, March 29, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Magnolia Town Hall, of insurance and must supply lawn 14729 W. County Road A, Evans-

to participate in the court process, mower, trimmer and any other ville, WI 53536. The DS 200 and Express Vote machines will be tested in preparation for the April 6, 2021 election. The public is welcome to attend. Graceann Toberman. Town Clerk / Treasurer The Independent Register

3/17/2021

WNAXLP 392036

ADVERTISEMENT FOR **EQUIPMENT BIDS**

Equipment Supply

Orfordville, Wisconsin April 2021

OWNER: Village of Orfordville 303 East Beloit Street

Orfordville, WI 53576 EQUIPMENT BID DEADLINE

Equipment bids for sewage lift station equipment for the proposed Orfordville lift station upgrades will be accepted at the Engineer's office until 2:00 p.m., local time Thursday, April 1, 2021. The proposals will then be evaluated by the

Owner and Engineer. Equipment for which bids are requested is for a towable diesel generator. The selected equipment will be purchased directly by the Village. Delivery and start-up are anticipated for May-June, 2021.

 SPECIAL CONTRACT RE-**QUIREMENTS** This project is expected to be funded in whole or in part with funds provided by the United States
Department of Agriculture, Rural
Utilities Service and will be subject to all the requirements from this

from the Engineer.

• BID DOCUMENTS
The Bid Documents, consisting PROJECT: Sewage Lift Station of Request for Equipment Bids, and Applicable Technical Specifications are available to qualified Manufacturers and Suppliers from the office of the Engineer with contact information as listed below. Bid documents will be available starting March 24, 2021. Engineer contact information is as follows:

program. Information on applicable

federal requirements is available

Town & Country Engineering, Inc. 2912 Marketplace Drive,

Suite 103

Madison, WI 53719 (608) 273-3350 Attention: Joe Thompson jthompson@tcengineers.net

BIDDER QUALIFICATIONS Manufacturers or Suppliers submitting a bid for any equipment must complete a qualification state-

Continued on next page

収

Proceedings of School District of Brodhead

City of Brodhead, Towns of Avon, Spring Grove, Decatur, Sylvester, Spring Valley and Magnolia

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS President - Mike Krupke; Vice President - Jim Wahl; Clerk - Michael Oellerich;

Treasurer - Al Schneider; Dan Calhoon; Jodi Kail

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING BRODHEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT District Office Board Room Monday, February 22, 2021

7:00 P.M. The meeting was called to order by Board President Mike Krupke at 7:00 p.m. The meeting agenda was published in the Wednesday, February 17, 2021 edition of the Independent Register.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Present: Mike Krupke, Jim Wahl, Michael Oellerich, Al Schneider, Elizabeth Kempel, Jodi Kail, and Don Buchanan Absent: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA **ACTION ITEM** Motion by Michael Oellerich, second by Al Schneider, to approve the

agenda as amended, moving item 9 ahead of item 8. Motion carried, 7-0. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Regular Meeting: February 10, 2021 Regular School Board Meeting Minutes were declared approved as

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD [SUSPENDED INDEFINITELY] **AGENDA ITEMS**

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM Superintendent Lueck presented an update on the status of COVID-19 within the District. Staff numbers remain positive and improving throughout the District. However, the entire $8^{\text{th}}\text{grade}$ is remote for the remainder of the current week and a Kindergarten class was out last week but returned this week. The High School Freshmen and Sophomores returned to school today and Juniors and Seniors will return next week.

Motion by Michael Oellerich, second by Elizabeth Kempel, to approve continuing the health aide, additional custodian, and the two full-time substitute teachers for the 2021-22 school year, with the intent to pay for these positions through anticipated ESSER funds. Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Jim Wahl, second by Al Schneider, to approve giving Superintendent Lueck the authority to use the No School Day currently scheduled for the day after Easter as a potential day off following the day after the staff receive their second COVID vaccination. Motion carried, 7-0.

SNOW/INCLEMENT WEATHER DAYS

Superintendent Lueck requested guidance on how to proceed for any additional snow/inclement weather days. The District's current schedule will not meet the minimum required minutes of instruction. The options the District has is to apply time to each day or apply for a waiver from the Department of Public Instruction. The Board instructed Superintendent Lueck that future snow days should remain as snow days and not virtual **ACTION ITEM**

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH Principal Jim Matthys gave a short summary on the Superintendent

search. The Board is at the point where it must choose candidates it would like to interview, and that process will be carried out in Closed Session later tonight. **ACTION ITEM**

ACCEPT DONATION(S) Motion by Jim Wahl, second by Al Schneider, to accept the following do-

• \$200.00 monetary donation from Don and Ann Mueller and family to the District to be used to help supplement the Brodhead Backpack Food

RESIGNATION(S)

ACTION ITEM None at this time

EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATION(S) ACTION ITEM Motion by Jodi Kail, second by Elizabeth Kempel, to approve the transfer

of Pam Colden from Elementary School Food Service Worker to High School Special Education Paraeducator, effective February 22, 2021.

Motion by Jim Wahl, second by Jodi Kail, to approve the increase in hours of Jeanne Vogel, High School Para-Educator, from 1,218 hours/year to ,246 hours/year, effective February 22, 2021. Motion carried, 7-0.

VOLUNTEER RECOMMENDATION(S) None at this time. FUTURE AGENDA [March 10, 2021]

 Hours of Instruction Waiver [Public Hearing] Appoint Board of Canvassers

College/Tech Credit Approvals

Approval of Student Handbooks

Approval of Contracted & Volunteer Coaches

 Library Plan COVID-19 Update

 Accept Donation(s) Resignation(s)

Employment Recommendation(s)

 Voluntéer Recommendation(s) **ROLL CALL VOTE TO CONVENE IN**

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO WI. STS. 19.85 (1) (c)

Motion byMichael Oellerich, second byAl Schneider,to go intoClosed Session under WI. STS. 19.85 (1) (c) at 7:25 p.m. for the discussion of: a. Superintendent Search

Roll Call vote: All ayes (7-0).

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Motion by Michael Oellerich, second by Jim Wahl, to return to open session at 8:14 p.m. Motion carried, 7-0.

The Clerk reported out that the Board selected 5 candidates to interview for Superintendent on the nights of March 2nd and 3rd. The five candidates are Gayle Luebke, Jacob Hubert, David Novy, Chris Medenwaldt, and Rich Moyer. **ADJOURNMENT**

at 8:15 p.m.Motion carried, 7-0. The Independent Register

3/17/2021

WNAXLP

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING **BRODHEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT District Office Board Room** Wednesday, March 3, 2021 9:15 P.M. **Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Board President Mike Krupke at 9:15 p.m. The meeting agenda was published in the Wednesday February 24, 2021 edition of the Independent Register. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Mike Krupke, Jim Wahl, Michael Oellerich, Elizabeth Kempel, Jodi Kail, and Don Buchanan

Absent: Al Schneider **AGENDA ITEMS**

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH/DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM

The Board discussed the Superintendent interview process that was conducted over the last two evenings. The Board thanked all Administrators, staff, and community members for participating in this process and providing the Board of Education with their feedback.

ROLL CALL VOTE TO CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT

TO WI. STS. 19.85 (1) (c) Motion by Michael Oellerich, second by Jim Wahl, to go into Closed Session under WI. STS. 19.85 (1) (c) at 9:16 p.m. for the discussion of: a. Staffing/Superintendent Search

Roll Call vote: All ayes (6-0).

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION **ACTION ITEM** Motion by Jim Wahl, second by Elizabeth Kempel, to return to open session at 10:31p.m.

Motion carried, 6-0.

ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

ACTION ITEM Motion by Michael Oellerich, second by Don Buchanan, to move forward with second interviews for Superintendent with Chris Medenwaldt and David Novy.

ADJOURNMENT Motion by Michael Oellerich, second by Jim Wahl, to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 p.m.

ACTION ITEM

Motion carried, 6-0.

Motion carried, 6-0. The Independent Register

3/17/2021 WNAXLP

ACTION ITEM Motion by Michael Oellerich, second by Jodi Kail, to adjourn the meeting

391969

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

391970

8 • Wednesday, March 17, 2021 - The Independent-Register

Legal Notices

Continued from previous page ment prior to bidding. The qualification statement must demonstrate that the company has been manufacturing similar units for at least ten consecutive years; has at least twenty-five similar units in service with at least ten of those in the U.S. or fewer if approved by the Engineer; has completed installations in the U.S. during the past twelve months; and has service technicians on call who would be able to be on site within 24 hours.

• RIGHTS RESERVED

The Village of Orfordville reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive informalities in any proposal in the best interests of the Village.

Published by the authority of: Sherri Waege

Village Clerk

Village of Orfordville, Wisconsin The Independent Register

3/17, 3/24/2021

DEADLINE:

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS PROJECT: **2021 SANITARY** SEWER REHABILITATION OWNER: Village of Orfordville

303 East Beloit Street, P.O. Box 409 Orfordville, WI 53576-0409 CONTRACTS AND BID

Sealed bids for a single contract for lining existing sanitary sewers will be received by the Village of Orfordville in the Village office until 2:00 P.M., local time on Thursday April 1, 2021. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud immediately thereafter in the Village Hall meeting room.

The contract will include cleaning, televising, grouting and lining 8-inch, 10-inch, and 12-inch diameter vitrified clay tile sanitary sewer and grouting and sealing existing manholes, including:

Cleaning and Televising Sanitary Sewer: 4,000 lineal feet

Gravity and Lining 8 to 12-inch Sanitary Sewer: 4,000 lineal feet

The quantities are subject to change without notice prior to document distribution.

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS:

The Contract Documents, consisting of Advertisement for Bids, Instructions to Bidders, Bidder's Proof of Responsibility, Bid Proposal Form, Affidavit of Organization and Authority, Bid Bond (in the amount of 5% of the maximum amount of the bid), Notice of Award Form, Agreement Form, Notice to Proceed Form, Performance/ Payment Bond (100%), Certificate of Insurance, General Conditions, Supplementary Conditions, Technical Specifications, Drawings and Addenda (if any) may be examined at the following locations:

Village of Orfordville 303 East Beloit Street, P.O. Box 409 Orfordville, WI 53576-0409

Town & Country Engineering, Inc. 2912 Marketplace Drive,

Madison, WI 53719

Copies of the Contract Documents and the Construction Plans may be obtained at the office of Town & Country Engineering, Inc., 2912 Marketplace Drive, Suite 103, Madison, WI 53719 via appointment only. There is a \$50 non-refundable copying and distribution charge for these documents. Electronic bidding documents are available on-line at Questcdn.com, Project No. 7644377 for \$30. This fee includes access to submit a bid

on-line via Questcdn. **QUALIFICATIONS:**

Bidders must be pre-qualified with the Village of Orfordville within the last year or must be pre-qualified for this work 5 days prior to the bid deadline in accordance with Section 66.0903 of the Wisconsin Stat-Each bidder must deposit, with his bid, security in the amount of 5% of the maximum bid amount. Bidders must be experienced in municipal pipeline construction. <u>SPECIAL CONTRACT</u>

REQUIREMENTS: This project will be funded in part

by USDA Rural Development. Disadvantaged Business terprises (DBE), including minoribusiness enterprises (MBE) and women business enterprises (WBE) are encouraged to apply and be used to the greatest extent feasible. Qualified DBEs will be included in the Unified Certification Program WisDOT UCP list. Program policy requires all bidders to undertake specific action to solicit proposals and/or publish a request for proposals at least 15 days prior to bid opening. Contractors with a DBE classification are strongly encouraged to bid as the Prime Contractor on this project provided they are qualified to do the work. Award of the contract will be subject to the Federal government's policy of good faith effort for increased use of DBE businesses. A description of the policy and forms to be used are included in specifications.

Section 746 of Title VII of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017 (Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017) and subsequent statutes mandating domestic preference applies an American Iron and Steel requirement to this project. All listed iron and steel products used in this project must be produced in the United States. The term "iron and steel products" means the following products made primarily of iron or steel: lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and construction mate-The de minimis and minor components waiver apply to this contract. Documentation of efforts

Federal Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO): The Offeror's or Bidder's attention is called to the "Equal Opportunity Clause" the "Standard Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Construction Contract Specification" included in the specifications. The goals and timetables for minority and female participation, expressed in percentage terms for the Contractor's aggregate workforce in each trade on all construction work in the covered area, are as follows:

• Goals for minority participation for each trade = 3.1% (Rock Coun-

· Goals for female participation in each trade = 6.9% WAGE RATES:

Wage rates must meet all state and local requirements. **RIGHTS RESERVED:**

The Village of Orfordville reserve the right to reject any and all bids and to waive informalities in any

Published by the authority of: Sherri Waege, Village Clerk The Independent Register 3/17, 3/24/2021 **WNAXLP**

● **Ballot** (Continued from page 4)

rather than winner-takes-all. In 2020, this would have resulted in six of the state's 10 electors going for Trump, rather than Biden, who narrowly won the state's popular vote. Because of Wisconsin's partisan gerrymandering of congressional districts, experts say the proposal would redistribute electoral power away from the areas that hold Wisconsin's urban – and mostly Democratic - strongholds.

Republican lawmakers supportive of these and other proposals say they would restore faith in the fairness of

Sen. Duey Stroebel, R-Saukville, who is sponsoring many of the not-yet-introduced bills, said he is concerned about the huge jump in the number of people who claim to be "indefinitely confined," meaning they can vote absentee without presenting a photo ID.

Stroebel also criticized the proliferation of drop boxes in the November election. These are not regulated by state law, although elections officials say they comply with federal guidance on how they should be secured. The bill would require that boxes be "tamper-resistant and moisture-resistant" with a slot "only large enough to allow for the insertion of an absentee ballot."

Throughout 2020, gaps, loopholes and outright violations of the clear intent of the law plagued the election process," Stroebel said in a statement to Wisconsin Watch. "The COVID-19 pandemic combined with a hotly contested presidential election were a tremendous stress on the system, and offered the Wisconsin Elections Commission and some - but not all - local election officials a chance to disregard the plain meaning of the law."

Tammy Patrick, a senior advisor at the Democracy Fund, a Washington, D.C.-based voting advocacy group, favors the increased use of drop boxes that were prevalent during the November election. The city of Madison also created Democracy in the Park, in which voters handed absentee ballots to election officials at city parks.

GOP proposals would limit both practices. One bill would dictate that each municipality must have no more than one drop box - so hundreds of thousands of voters in Milwaukee would have the same number of absentee ballot boxes as a town with a few hundred voters.

Another measure would appear to ban events like Madison's Democracy in the Park in which poll workers gathered completed ballots at more than 200 sites in late September and early October. This proposal would require a single site for collecting ballots no more than 14 days before an election and at a location that is "as near as practicable to the office of the municipal clerk.'

Stroebel said these and other measures are aimed at introducing uniformity across the state to create "complete trust in our elections" and to ensure that absentee ballot procedures Dolan said.



DARREN HAUCK FOR WISCONSIN WATCH Brodhead In

A municipal clerk handles absentee ballots during the primary election on February. Democratic Gov. Tony Evers and Democrats and Republicans in the Wisconsin Legislature have all proposed major changes to state election law in the wake of 2020's contentious presidential election, but experts say the state's political split will prevent major changes that lack bipartisan support.

'comply with existing statutes."

Patrick countered that drop boxes are "embraced all across the country" but Republicans demonized them in 2020 as "somehow jeopardizing the integrity of the election – and that is really problematic.'

False fraud claims persist

In fact, false claims of fraud continue to motivate many GOP proposals - and raise concerns among the public. Prior to the November election, one Reuters poll showed that three-quarters of American voters feared electoral fraud would tip the election. In late January, after Biden was sworn in, a Monmouth poll found one-third of Americans believed his victory was due to fraud.

Trump's allies continue to repeat spurious claims of widespread election fraud. But erroneous or fraudulent voting was exceedingly rare in Wisconsin's Nov. 3 election.

The Wisconsin State Journal examined thousands of complaints to lawmakers about the election, finding a lot of "hearsay or minor administrative errors" but just 28 allegations that were specific enough to examine.

And the newspaper found only one claim could be partially substantiated – that ballots from 42 early voters who died before Election Day were counted.

UW-Madison political science professor Ken Mayer said maintaining a high level of security is "absolutely crucial," but fraud of the kind that was claimed in 2020 is "vanishingly rare."

Wisconsin voting mostly smooth

REALNEWS

Independent-Register

COVID-19 outbreak sends high school students home

Digital Subscription available for this newspaper!

Just go to southernlakesnewspapers.com

and click on SUBSCRIBE in the menu bar at the top of the page.

Then click on E Editions to choose your paper

and start your E SUB today!

Experts say despite the rancor, Wisconsin's elections tend to be well-run.

"By and large, people who are in charge of our elections do their iobs well and acquit themselves well,"

Independent-Register

COVID-19 outbreak sends high school students hon

The glaring exception was the April primary at the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, which saw long lines in Milwaukee and thousands of rejected ballots statewide as clerks scrambled to staff the polls and hundreds of thousands of voters switched to absentee voting, many for the first time.

As the pandemic ground on, election officials adjusted, and the Nov. 3 election was largely a success, with a record 72% of all eligible voters turning out, according to a report by a coalition of Wisconsin groups that favor expansive access to voting.

Problems in November were "limited and site-specific, rather than the result of a generalized inability of the system to handle a large turnout amid changes in the law," the report found. One marker of success: a plunging rate of rejected ballots, 0.2% in November compared to 1.8% in April.

Mayer, who studies election administration, said while there was a lot of talk about fraud in the 2020 general election, the bigger danger to election integrity is voter disenfranchisement.

'You have to worry about the things that are actually real," Mayer said. 'And one of the things that undermines the integrity of the election process is when you have lots of people ... who are unable to vote, whether it's long lines or (voter) ID (requirements) or other things - that that's actually a threat to the integrity of the system."

The nonprofit Wisconsin Watch (wis consinwatch.org) collaborates with WPR, PBS Wisconsin, other news media and the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Journalism and Mass Communication. All works created, published, posted or disseminated by Wisconsin Watch do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of UW-Madison, any of its affiliates or Rock Valley Publishing.

Activities

(Continued from page 5)

use in Racine County and New Berlin, and visits to the Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway.

- · The DNR reports downloads of popular phone applications for birdwatchers have seen year-over-year increases that far outpace those of recent
- While it is too early to tell if these increases herald a long-term shift in outdoor activity, state sales tax collections may offer a modest clue: they show sales at sporting goods stores up markedly in much of 2020. National data also shows increases in federal excise taxes collected on fishing, boating, hunting and shooting products.

This data holds out at least a possibility that, as Wisconsinites become better outfitted for outdoor activity, their interest might outlast COVID-19.

This information is provided to Wisconsin Newspaper Association members as a service of the Wisconsin Policy Forum, a leading resource for nonpartisan state and local government research and civic education. Learn more at wispolicyforum.org.

Rock Valley Publishing Can Publish Your Legals. Call 608-897-2193

Or email your legals to

legals@rvpublishing.com Today!