

Brodhead

Independent Register

FREE TAKE ONE

Football frenzy.....2

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Summer 2023 youth ball teams for Juda.....4-5

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WEDNESDAY, AUG. 30, 2023

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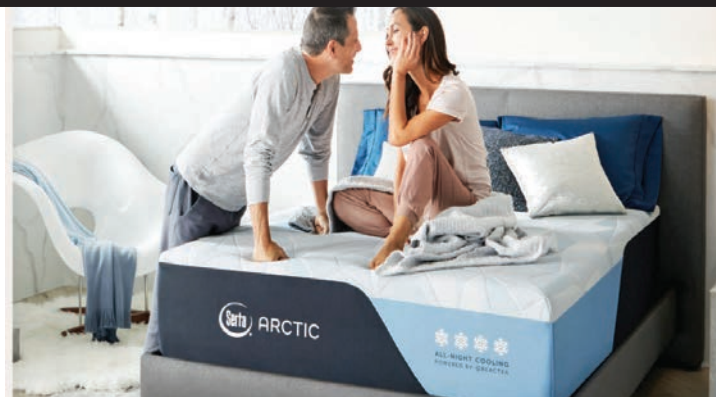
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Join the 2023 FOOTBALL FRENZY CONTEST

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 2nd Prize \$10

FIRST WEEK FOOTBALL FRENZY WINNERS

The first place winner of \$20 was Eric Von Allmen of Albany with 9 correct answers and 49 as the most points scored. The second place winner of \$10 was Paul Clark of Brodhead with 7 correct answers and 49 as the most points scored. The most points scored by one team was Lodi vs. McFarland with a score of 49-3.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE FOOTBALL FRENZY CONTEST THIS WEEK AND A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OUR SPONSORS WHO MAKE THIS CONTEST POSSIBLE.

CONTEST RULES:

1. Pick the teams listed in each advertisement on this page. Indicate the winner by writing in the name of the team opposite the advertiser's name on the entry form. No scores. Just pick winners.
2. Pick a number which you think will be the highest number of points scored by any one team on this page and place this number in the space provided near the bottom of the entry form. This will be used to break ties and if a tie remains, one winner will be chosen via random drawing from all correct entries.
3. One entry only from each contestant. Entries must be brought to The Independent-Register office by 4:30 p.m. Friday or postmarked no later than Friday of each week and mailed to The Independent-Register, 917 W. Exchange St., Brodhead, WI, 53520.
4. Must be ten years of age or older to qualify.

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Parkview/Albany vs. Black Hawk 442811

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I think _____ will be the most points scored by one team.

MAIL OR BRING ENTRY TO THE INDEPENDENT-REGISTER
 Letters or entries must be at The Independent-Register office
 by 4:30 p.m. on Friday or postmarked by Friday and mailed to:
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PLEASE PATRONIZE THE SPONSORS WHO MAKE THIS CONTEST POSSIBLE!!! THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!!!



SUBMITTED PHOTO Brodhead Independent-Register

Going to the Rock County Fair

On July 29, State Sen. Mark Spreitzer was excited to attend the Rock County Fair. He appreciates all the hard work that goes into hosting and exhibiting at these fairs.

Outdoor quilt show in Orfordville announced

Sassy Farm Chicks will hold 'Annual Airing of the Quilts'

The Sassy Farm Chicks Quilt Company is holding their Annual Airing of the Quilts Outdoor Quilt Exhibition on Saturday, Sept. 9. The show will begin at 10 a.m. Rain date is Sunday, Sept. 10.

Quilts are being sought from area quilters for the exhibition. Quilts can be the work of the quilter, a gift, a family piece, be new or vintage, or be a mission quilt made for donation. Quilts can be of any size, wall hangings, table pieces, or any quilted item. Quilts shown in previous years are welcome. Entry information can be found at www.sassyfarmchicks.com, or by calling 608-921-3466.

Quilts are currently being accepted at the quilt shop in downtown Orfordville

through Tuesday, Sept. 5 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., or by appointment.

The Airing of the Quilts is an outdoor quilt exhibition in downtown Orfordville showcasing local quilters. A panel of quilters will answer questions at 10 a.m. in the Purdy Park Pavilion on Church Street. Mystery quilts made in the spring of 2023 will be featured and demonstrations are scheduled throughout the day. At 1 p.m. in the park pavilion there will be quilt presentations and a display by The Dairyland Quilts of Val-or chapter and from the Orfordville Community Quilts of Gratitude sewers. A quilt collecting and history lecture by Rhonda Streich, quilt appraiser, will be at 2 p.m. on the patio next to the quilt shop on Beloit Street. A quilt

challenge will be available to all quilters.

A quilt-themed story-walk for children will also be held in Purdy Park presented by the Orfordville Public Library. Orfordville Market Day will be held in Purdy Park beginning at 9 a.m. with many local vendors. More information for Orfordville Market Day can be found on their Facebook Page. The Orfordville Lions Club will offer lunch and drinks at Purdy Park on this day also as a fundraiser for future Orfordville Splash Pad.

Questions can be directed to: Sassy Farm Chicks Quilt Company at 608-921-3466 or sassyfarmchicks@yahoo.com. Further details can be found at www.sassyfarmchicks.com.

DNR accepting pre-applications for 2024 surface water grants

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will award more than \$6 million to local groups to protect and improve surface water.

Lake groups, river groups, local governments, nonprofit organizations and producer-led groups are encouraged to apply for a grant. Interested organizations should submit a pre-application by Sept. 15 to ensure they are eligible to compete for a grant in November.

The DNR's Surface Water Grants Program leverages money from the water resources account of the state conservation fund to help local communities accelerate water protection and restoration efforts across Wisconsin. The funding can be used to support a wide range of locally driven projects that invest in watersheds and surface water

bodies.

Activities eligible for funding include:

- Organizational capacity building
- Educational programs on surface water
- Data collection and ecological assessments
- Lake and river management planning
- Water quality improvement
- Projects that restore aquatic habitat
- Aquatic invasive species prevention and control
- Conservation easements and land acquisition

Wisconsin Legislature: 2023 Wisconsin Act 5 amended lake and river protection grant statutes to explicitly designate producer-led groups, or a legal entity acting on their behalf, as eligible applicants to receive surface water grants.

A producer-led group is a group of five farmers and a collaborator (e.g., UW-Extension, DNR, County or nonprofit conservation organization) who have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). If the group is not incorporated, the collaborator may serve as the applicant/fiscal sponsor.

Who is eligible to apply for grant funding?

Eligible organizations include lake associations and districts, river management organizations, local units of government, nonprofits, schools, producer-led groups, and others. Individuals are not eligible for grants (with few exceptions) but may partner with an organization that is willing to sponsor a project. Reach out now to your local environmental grant specialist to confirm eligibility.

What funding is available?

The amount of funding available varies by project. For example, education projects are eligible for up to \$5,000 in state support while comprehensive planning grants are available for up to \$25,000 and larger management plan implementation grants can provide up to \$200,000 per project. Grants operate on a reimbursement basis and require matching funds from 25% to 33% of the total project cost.

How to apply

Submit a pre-application by Sept. 15. This will connect you to local assistance and ensure you are eligible to submit a final application on Nov. 15.

Pre-application forms can be found under the "applying" tab on the DNR's Surface Water Grants Program

webpage. Right-click the link to Surface Water Grant Application Form 8700-284 and download or "save as" to create a copy of the form on your computer. Open the form from the local drive and fill out the sections labeled "pre-application."

Email the form by Sept. 15 to DNRSurfaceWaterGrants@Wisconsin.gov. The department will be in touch with more information following the submission.

For more information

Visit the DNR's Surface

Water Grants Program webpage for more information on applying and managing a grant project.

The DNR Surface Water Grant Applicant Guide is a comprehensive user manual for the program. This document has been updated for the 2023-2024 grant cycle. It is organized chronologically to explain how to navigate the grant program from application to closing. Start by reading Section 1, which contains enough high-level introductory information to get anyone interested started.

In brief

Program on trees coming to Orfordville

Mary Ann Buenzow, former Wisconsin DNR forester, will present a program on trees at the Sunny Peace Prairie, 2604 S. Coon Island Road, Orfordville at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23.

Besides having 42 acres of restored native prairie habitat, the property has 10 acres of woods with ample opportunities to learn about trees.

Attendees should wear com-

fortable walking shoes. Mary Ann and her husband Brian, a former Wisconsin DNR Wildlife Technician, serve as advisors to the prairie. The program will last approximately an hour and a half.

For further information, contact the Parkview School District, 608-879-2717.

DNR, Sauk Co. officials confirm death due to accidental fall

The Wisconsin Depart-

ment of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Sauk County Sheriff's Office today confirmed the man found deceased Aug. 15 on a Devil's Lake State Park bluff died of an accidental fall.

The Sauk County Coroner has identified the deceased as Jason Gillum, 42, from Fort Wayne, Ind.

Two hikers were separated while on the West Bluff portion of the park Tuesday afternoon. One hiker filed a

missing person report with authorities when the other could not be located. A hiking group came upon the fall just before 5 p.m. on the same day and alerted authorities.

The joint-agency investigation found Gillum's death was due to a 49-foot fall along the West Bluff near the north shore of the park, just south of Baraboo.

No foul play is suspected in this incident.

Digging deeper: Free gardening programs are offered online

UW-Madison Division of Extension Horticulture Program is offering free educational online programs to help anyone be more successful in their own yards, gardens, and containers — anywhere plants can be grown.

Their next series, Digging Deeper, is starting. Registration is required for each program. Participants can attend only one or all three. This series is open to the public. All programs in this series will be recorded and made available on the Extension

Horticulture website. Go to bit.ly/3IYUVFq to find out more and to register.

Online Programs

• Growing Garlic in Wisconsin: Aug. 30, noon. Description: Whether a person is a garden enthusiast, a foodie, or both, garlic is well known around the world! Join the program to learn techniques for growing garlic from planting to storage. Presented by: Darrin Kimbler, former Agriculture Educator for UW-Madison Extension Iron County and

Garlic Farmer, Michigan

• From Scraps to Soil: Composting Basics: Sept. 6, noon. Description: Ever wondered about making compost? In this overview of composting basics, find out the do's, the don'ts, and what happens to compost over winter so lawn, garden, and food waste can be recycled. Presented by: Julie Hill, Horticulture Outreach Specialist, UW-Madison Extension Walworth, Rock and Jefferson Counties

• Soil Testing — Why, When, and How: Sept. 13,

noon. Description: Don't guess about adding fertilizer or lime to a lawn or garden. Test the soil! Join the program to learn when and how to test soil, where to send it for testing, and what a soil test will reveal. Presented by: Kristin Krokowski, Commercial Horticulture Educator, UW-Madison Extension Waukesha County.

These webinars are hosted by UW-Madison, Division of Extension, Horticulture. For upcoming events and learning opportunities, see hort.extension.wisc.edu/events.

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Summer 2023 youth ball teams for Juda



PHOTO COURTESY LARSEN PHOTOGRAPHY *Brodhead Independent-Register*

The 8U Girls Juda Panthers softball team for Summer 2023. Standing: Hudson Smith, Madeline Greiner, Coach Grace Gold, Ellie Makos, Brenna Lincoln. Kneeling: Dakota Baum, Chloe Brooks, Maddison Doran, Rebel Rittenhouse, Allycen Swedlund, Kinzley Boeke. Sitting: Jaelyn Kainz, Kaydence Myhre.



PHOTO COURTESY LARSEN PHOTOGRAPHY *Brodhead Independent-Register*

The 8U Boys Juda Panthers baseball team for Summer 2023. Standing: Court Luckey, Braxton Boeke, Coach Mason Mielke, Lane Severson, Ryland Knutsen. Kneeling: Kipp Lynaugh, Quintin Soddy, Lincoln Myhre, Quinten Smith. Sitting: Easton Homan, CJ Severson, Cullin Soddy.

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Rock County Senior Fair presents 'Movies, One Memory at a Time'

It's time to spread the word; The Rock County Senior Fair is planned for Friday, Sept. 15 at the Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Rock County Resource Center, 1717 Center Avenue, Janesville. Senior Fair hours will be 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with free admission and parking.

The theme of this year's event is "Movies, One Memory at a Time". Not only will attendees discover resources available for older adults to lead a healthy and active lifestyle, but they will also find a lot of great movie memories throughout the event. Come and enjoy the fun!

Visit more than 50 informational booths to gather more resources. Stop by the Rock County Health Department booth to get a flu shot. Bring in old or outdated medication to safely dispose of them through the RX Roundup. Protect private information and bring in papers or documents to safely dispose of in the All Pro secure shredding bins.

Contribute to ECHO and donate canned goods. Or bring in old eyeglasses to donate to the Lions Club Recycle for Sight.

Whatever activity each attendee chooses to do at the Fair, the resource center looks forward to helping.

Women's Business Expo seeks exhibitors from Rock County

The Women's Business Expo is putting out a call for exhibitors to any business in the Rock County area that is owned or operated in part by women.

The expo will be held Oct. 26 at The Venue at 37 S. Water St. in Janesville.

The event is an opportunity for women in business to share what they do, how they do it, and to demonstrate their products and to sell them. It's an opportunity to connect with other members of the community, and to help grow their businesses. Admission to the general public is free and there are also complimentary hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar and raffles.

For those who would like to participate, the application process is now open. The fee is \$65 for a 10' x 6' booth space. The on-line link for the application is: www.signupgenius.com/go/9040E-4BADA922A0FD0-save2, or contact Andrea Mroz at: amroz@johnsonfinancialgroup.com.

The proceeds from the expo will be used locally by supporting the "Women with a Vision" scholarship. Zonta's fundraising efforts also support local and international programs that promote equality and the betterment of all.

Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals working together to empower women worldwide through service and advocacy. For more information about the local Zonta Club of Janesville, visit the Facebook page, website, or contact Cathy Myers, President, at: janesville_president@zontadistrict6.org.

SHOP Local

SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES THAT SUPPORT YOU!

Summer 2023 youth ball teams for Juda



PHOTO COURTESY LARSEN PHOTOGRAPHY Brodhead Independent-Register

The 10U Girls Juda Panthers softball team for Summer 2023. Standing: Caitlyn Corning, Coach Becky Corning, Lilly Johnson, Coach Trinity Elmer, Kambrya Kainz, Coach Angie Kainz, Isabella Scheidegger. Kneeling: Cambria Lynaugh, Pypier Stewart, Leah Whitney, Nadelia Walker, Rorri Rittenhouse.



PHOTO COURTESY LARSEN PHOTOGRAPHY Brodhead Independent-Register

The 10U Boys Juda Panthers baseball team for Summer 2023. Standing: Lucas Scheidegger, Coach Dakota Davis, Michael Klopfenstein, Coach David Klopfenstein, Evan Johnson. Kneeling: Max Zimmerman, Brogen Sullivan, Calvin Stewart, Dixon Starr, Liam Burchard, Maverick Stewart.



PHOTOS COURTESY LARSEN PHOTOGRAPHY Brodhead Independent-Register

Above: The 12U Girls Juda Panthers softball team for Summer 2023. Standing: Tenley Sullivan, Coach Katie Nusbaum, Coach Anna Skoumal, Auriel Hosch. Kneeling: Bindy Lynaugh, Lany Zimmerman, Myka Rufer, Autymn Norton. Sitting: Reagan Matzke, Quinn Avery Burchard, Pypier Stewart, Allison Starr.

Right: The 14U Girls Juda Panthers softball team for Summer 2023. Standing: Phoenix Homan, Coach Russ Homan, Anna Bartels, Coach Jim Bartels, Ryleigh Brown, Coach Scott Brown, Aubrey McCullough, Coach Kurt Brown, Kam Simpson. Kneeling: Rebekah Liphart, Olivia Brooks, Katie Sullivan, Makenna Scheidegger, HaLinda Reasa, Lily Zimmerman. Sitting: Sophie Bolton, Carle Simplot.



LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF SPRING VALLEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

To be held Monday, September 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., prior to the regular monthly town board meeting at the Orfordville Fire Station meeting room, 173 North Wright Street, Orfordville, WI for the following purpose: To consider an application by Fritz D Wenger 15043 W Lang Rd., Orfordville WI 53576 for an ag business conditional use permit to operate the selling and servicing of cargo trailers on 2 +/- acres of his property. This conditional use is provided for in the Town of Spring Valley Zoning Ordinance section 4.4. The 20 acre property is zoned A-1, located at 15043 W Lang Rd., Orfordville WI, tax parcel 6-18-126, on W20A NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Sec. 15-2-10.

The Town of Spring Valley Planning & Zoning Committee will consider the application at its August 28, 2023 meeting and will advise the Board of their recommendation. A quorum of the Committee members may be present for information-gathering purposes.

Dela Ends, Clerk

The Independent Register
8/30, 9/6/2023
WNAXLP 442748

Notice of the Board of Review For the City of Brodhead

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Review for the **City of Brodhead** of Green and Rock County shall hold its first meeting on the **11th day of September, 2023 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at: City of Brodhead, 1111 W. 2nd Ave., Brodhead WI 53520**

Please be advised of the following requirements to appear before the Board of Review and procedural requirements if appearing before the Board:

Sec. 70.47(7) (aa), Wis. Stats., provides that the BOR may deny a hearing to a property owner who does not allow the assessor to complete an exterior view. However, the Wisconsin Supreme Court expressed due process concerns regarding a similarly worded statute in *Milewski v. Town of Dover*, 2017 WI 79, 377 Wis. 2d 38, 899 N.W.2d 303. It is DOR's recommendation to allow a BOR hearing even if the property owner denied an interior or exterior view. The lack of access to view, and the credibility of evidence offered can be managed as an evidentiary issue at a BOR hearing, rather than denying access to the BOR.

- After the first BOR meeting and before the BOR's final adjournment, no person who is scheduled to appear before the BOR may contact, or provide information to, a member of the BOR about that person's objection except at a BOR session.

- No person may appear before the BOR, testify to the BOR by phone or contest the amount of any assessment unless, at least 48 hours before the first meeting of the BOR or at least 48 hours before the objection is heard if the objection is allowed under sub. (3) (a), that person provides to the BOR clerk a notice as to whether the person will ask for removal under sub. (6m) and if so which member will be removed and the person's reasonable estimate of the length of time that the hearing will take.

- When appearing before the BOR, the person must specify in writing, his or her estimate of the land value and improvements that he or she is objecting and the person must specify the information that he or she used to arrive at that estimate.

- No person may appear before the BOR, testify to the BOR by phone or object to a valuation; if the assessor or objector made

the valuation using the income method; unless the person supplies the assessor with all the information about income and expenses, as specified in the manual under state law (sec. 73.03(2a), Wis. Stats.), that the assessor requests. The municipality or county must provide by ordinance for the confidentiality of information about income and expenses provided to the assessor under this paragraph and provide exceptions for persons using the information in the discharge of duties imposed by law or of the duties of their office or by order of a court. The information that is provided under this paragraph, unless a court determines that it is inaccurate, is not subject to the right of inspection and copying under state law (sec. 19.35(1), Wis. Stats.).

Respectfully submitted,
City of Brodhead
Nikolai Wahl, City Clerk

Published: 08/23/2023 & 08/30/2023
Posted: 08/18/2023

The Independent Register
8/23, 8/30/2023
WNAXLP 442532

ORDINANCE NUMBER 004 - 2023 AN ORDINANCE REZONING PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF BRODHEAD

A full copy of this ordinance is available at the City of Brodhead City Hall, located at 1111 W 2nd Avenue, Brodhead, WI 53520, or by calling 608-897-4018.

Effect of Ordinance: Changes the zoning for the property located at 507 E 9th Avenue from Single-Family Residential District (R-1) to One and Two-Family Residential District (R-2).
Edward "Casey" Jones, Mayor
Attest: Nikolai Wahl, City Clerk
Date Adopted: 8/21/2023
Date Published: 8/30/2023
Effective Date: 8/21/2023
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Revolving classroom doors: Recent trends in Wisconsin's teacher turnover

Report uncovers key trends in how teachers move between districts or leave profession

BY WISCONSIN POLICY FORUM

Teacher turnover surged in Wisconsin in 2023 as record numbers of teachers moved between districts, and the most teachers since 2012 left public school classrooms altogether, a new Wisconsin Policy Forum report finds.

Turnover overall from 2009 to 2023 was more prevalent among teachers of color than their white counterparts, in districts serving vulnerable student populations, and among rural school districts as well as those with the lowest enrollment. Turnover was caused to a greater extent by teachers exiting public school classrooms altogether, rather than moving between districts.

The report relies on a sweeping analysis of public school staffing data from

the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) going back to 2009, which researchers used to determine teacher turnover rates for individual districts and the state as a whole. Our analysis examined nearly 116,000 teachers at roughly 450 school districts and other K-12 entities over a 15-year period.

From 2009 to 2023, we found an average of 11.5% of the state's teachers turned over each year.

Coming into the 2022-23 school year (referred to as 2023 in the report), turnover rose to 15.8% – the highest percentage during the years studied. The 2023 rate included both the highest levels on record of teachers moving between districts and the second-highest levels of teach-

ers leaving Wisconsin public school classrooms for some other pursuit. While teacher turnover is not always harmful, high levels of it can affect district operations, and research suggests that it can also affect outcomes for students and schools.

"This effect is especially concerning given our findings that turnover is highest in precisely those schools where students face the biggest challenges and might benefit the most from a stable environment in which to learn," the report finds. "As students recover from the worst of pandemic disruption, that stability may be even more important."

To further understand statewide teacher turnover, we broke it down into two categories. The first is

"moves," or teachers who move from one Wisconsin district in one year to teach in another Wisconsin district the next year. The other is "leaves," or teachers who are present in the state public school data one year but do not show up as teachers in the data at all the next year.

Additional findings:

- Teacher leaves outnumber moves: The average statewide teacher move rate in the period studied was 2.9%, while the average statewide leave rate was 8.0%. Wisconsin's leave rate ranged from a low of 6.4% in 2011 to a high of 10.4% in 2012. This 2012 high was tied to Act 10 and was likely driven by a one-time increase in retirements. The leave rate in 2023 was nearly as high at 10.1%.

Although it never surpassed the rate of teachers leaving, Wisconsin's average rate of teachers moving increased during the period studied, from 1.1% in 2010 to 4.7% in 2023.

- Rural, urban retention challenges differ: The report highlights how teacher retention strategies may need to vary depending on their location. Urban districts' primary concern may be teachers leaving the public school classroom or the state entirely. "Rural districts are not spared from this concern," the report finds, "but must also contend with simultaneously having a greater risk of losing their teachers to other Wisconsin districts."

- Teachers of color most

affected: Turnover among white teachers, who make up the great majority of the state's educator workforce, was slightly below the overall state average during the period studied. Meanwhile, turnover among teachers of color was substantially higher. This may reflect, in part, the fact that the state's Black teachers (who experienced the highest levels of turnover on average) are concentrated in districts with high turnover rates for teachers of all races. Turnover among teachers of color is of particular concern due to documented benefits from their presence for all students, and especially students of color.

- Widespread challenge: All types of districts studied experienced at least 10% turnover on average during the years studied, indicating the widespread nature of the issue. That said, in districts with high shares of students of color and high levels of economic disadvantage, teachers are more likely to turn over. Such districts serve the very student groups with the most to gain from lower turnover.

- Donors versus recipients: Our analysis bolsters a long-held belief that some districts in rural – and to a lesser extent in urban – areas function as "donor" districts by losing more teachers to other districts than they gain. Meanwhile, "recipient" districts are predominantly in suburban areas.

The report also includes a section that analyzes key turnover findings for the

state's largest school district, Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS). The average teacher turnover rate for MPS was 15.4% for the time period studied and was driven largely by "leaves" of teachers from the district. The leave rate of teachers in MPS over the period studied was 13.4%, compared to a move rate of only 2.0%.

In fact, the MPS move rate was below the statewide average move rate of 2.9%.

The increase in teacher turnover does not appear to be unique to Wisconsin – and in the wake of the pandemic and the current economy, elevated turnover rates extend beyond the world of education.

Still, it warrants concern due to the potential impacts on students.

Possible responses may include increasingly popular "grow your own" teacher recruitment programs; affordable housing policies; grant programs that send flexible funds to districts at greatest risk for educator workforce issues; attaching financial incentives to hard-to-staff classrooms, schools, and districts; and improved working conditions.

The Wisconsin Policy Forum is the state's leading source of nonpartisan, independent research on state and local public policy. As a nonprofit, our research is supported by members including hundreds of corporations, nonprofits, local governments, school districts, and individuals. Visit wispolICYforum.org to learn more.

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Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.
Rate of pay is \$19-\$22/hour (based on experience).
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: David Novy, District Administrator, Brodhead School District, 2501 W. 5th Ave., Brodhead, WI 53520, or email dnovy@brodhead.k12.wi.us
Deadline for Applications: Sept. 6.

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.

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USDA offers disaster assistance to Wisconsin farmers

Agricultural operations in Wisconsin are experiencing severe and worsening drought conditions. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has technical and financial assistance available to help farmers and livestock producers recover. Impacted producers should contact their local USDA Service Center to report losses and learn more about program options available to assist in their recovery from crop, land, infrastructure and livestock losses and damages.

"Production agriculture is vital to the economic well-being of communities across Wisconsin, and USDA stands ready to help farmers, ranchers, and foresters as they work to recover from severe drought conditions," said Robert Bonnie, Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC). "USDA employees are working diligently to deliver FPAC's extensive portfolio of disaster assistance programs and services to all impacted agricultural producers."

USDA disaster recovery assistance

Livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land may be eligible for the 2023 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP). To participate in LFP producers must own, cash lease, or contract grow eligible livestock, provide pasture or grazing land to eligible livestock on the beginning date of the qualifying drought, certify that they suffered a grazing loss due to drought, and submit an acreage report to the Farm Service Agency (FSA) for all grazing land for which a grazing loss is being claimed. FSA maintains a list of counties eligible for LFP and makes updates



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE USDA *Brodhead Independent-Register*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has technical and financial assistance available to help farmers and livestock producers recover from severe and worsening drought conditions.

each Thursday.

Meanwhile, the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) provides eligible producers with compensation for feed losses as well as water hauling expenses associated with transportation of water to livestock and transporting livestock to forage or other grazing acres. For ELAP, producers will need to file a notice of loss within 30 days and honeybee losses within 15 days.

Additionally, eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers may be eligible for cost-share assistance through the Tree Assistance Program (TAP) to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes or vines lost during the drought. This complements Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) or crop insurance coverage, which covers the crop but not the plants or trees in all cases. For TAP, a program application must be filed within 90 days.

"Once you are able to evaluate the drought impact on your operation, this may be fewer bales of hay harvested, few-

er grazing days on pasture, or need to haul water, however the drought has impacted your farm, be sure to contact your local FSA office to timely report all crop and livestock damages and losses," said Gene Schriener, State Executive Director for the Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Wisconsin. "To expedite FSA disaster assistance, you will likely need to provide documents, such as farm records, herd or other livestock inventory, receipts and pictures of damages or losses."

FSA also offers a variety of direct and guaranteed farm loans, including operating and emergency farm loans, to producers who cannot secure commercial financing. Producers in counties with a primary or contiguous disaster designation may be eligible for low-interest emergency loans to help them recover from production and physical losses. Loans can help producers replace essential property, purchase inputs like livestock, equipment, feed and seed, cover family living expenses or refinance farm-related debts and other needs. Ad-

ditionally, FSA has a variety of loan servicing options available for borrowers who are unable to make scheduled payments on their farm loan debt to FSA because of reasons beyond their control.

Risk management

Producers who have risk protection through federal crop insurance or FSA's NAP should report crop damage to their crop insurance agent or FSA office. If they have crop insurance, producers should report crop damage to their agent within 72 hours of damage discovery and follow up in writing within 15 days. For NAP covered crops, a Notice of Loss (CCC-576) must be filed within 15 days of the loss becoming apparent, except for hand-harvested crops, which should be reported within 72 hours.

"Crop insurance and other USDA risk management options are offered to help producers manage risk because we never know what nature has in store for the future," said Pamela Stahlke, Director of RMA's Regional Office that covers Wisconsin. "The Approved Insurance Providers, loss adjusters and agents are experienced and well-trained in handling these types of events."

Producers who have not applied for NAP coverage may still be covered. FSA has updated NAP to remove barriers and establish procedures through which an underserved producer with a CCC-860, Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource,

Beginning and Veteran Farmer or Rancher Certification on file prior to the applicable NAP application closing date will automatically receive basic coverage for any NAP-eligible crops. Like all NAP-covered producers, underserved producers will still need to file a notice of loss and apply for program benefits.

Conservation

FSA's Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) and Emergency Forest Restoration Program assists landowners and forest stewards with financial and technical assistance to restore fencing, remove debris, replace damaged irrigation system, land leveling and more. FSA has updated ECP policy to permit advance payments up to 25% of costs for all ECP practices.

FSA's Conservation Reserve Program authorizes producers to conduct emergency haying and grazing activities during times of drought. Grazing activities can occur during the Primary Nesting Season (May 15 through Aug. 1), while producers are first eligible to hay beginning Aug. 2. Producers must request and receive approval from the Farm Service Agency before beginning any activities.

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) can help farmers make their operation more resilient in the face of drought in future years. Through conservation planning and practices that will improve soil health and water conservation, farmers can reduce future

crop loss due to drought and enhance resiliency to changing climatic conditions. Financial help for implementing conservation practices may be available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program. Long-term damage from drought can include forage production loss in pastures and fields and increased wind erosion on crop fields not protected with soil health practices. Producers can visit their local USDA Service Center to learn more about these impacts, potential recovery tactics and how to take steps to make their land more resilient to drought in the future.

"USDA can be a very valuable partner to help landowners with their recovery and resiliency efforts," said Tyrone Larson, NRCS State Conservationist in Wisconsin. "Our staff will work one-on-one with landowners to make assessments of the damages and develop approaches that focus on effective recovery of the land."

More information

On farmers.gov, the Drought Webpage, Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool, Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance fact sheet, and Loan Assistance Tool can help producers and landowners determine program or loan options. For assistance with a crop insurance claim, producers and landowners should contact their crop insurance agent. For FSA and NRCS programs, they should contact their local USDA Service Center.

Obituaries

DERRICK HEISZ

Derrick Edward Heisz, 45, of Gays Mills, a beloved son, brother, and friend, passed away unexpectedly due to a work accident on Aug. 24, 2023.

Born on Jan. 1, 1978, in Janesville to Paul and Arlene (Abraham) Heisz, Derrick was a beacon of creativity, selflessness, and spirited adventure throughout his 45 years. Derrick was a proud graduate of Brodhead High School, class of 1996. His early education laid the foundation for a career characterized by dedication and resilience.

As a utility worker and contractor, Derrick traveled across the U.S., restoring power to hundreds of thousands of people and working on major storm damages. His work, often involving the hanging of high-voltage electrical transmission lines from helicopters, was a testament to his fearlessness and commitment to service.

A man of many passions, Derrick lived his life to the fullest. He had a heart of gold and was always ready to lend a helping hand. His love for adventure was evident in his fondness for skydiving, a hobby that paralleled his high-flying career. Derrick was also



deeply connected to his roots, showing a special interest in his grandfather's farm, and expressing a deep love for his local community. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and spending quality time with his family, creating memories that will be cherished

forever. Derrick's family was not limited to his human relatives. His 'children' were his beloved dogs, Cooper and Willie Nelson, and his goats, Burt and Calvin. His love for his pets reflected his generous spirit and his capacity for unconditional love.

Derrick is survived by his parents, Paul and Arlene Heisz; his siblings, Rollin (Hattie) Klick, Karla (Edwin) Ensor, David (Theresa) Klick, Ronni (William) Stampfli, and Brielle (Travis) Weiss. He is also survived by his nieces and nephews, Zachary and Collin Klick, Melissa Vantuyl, Ryan

and Kyle Strehlow, Danielle Klick, Ronessa Lund, Ashely Straveler, Kayla Gauld, and Erika Stampfli; many great nieces and nephews; his aunt, Pamela Martin; special cousin, Jennifer New; special friend, Kesha Blaha; and numerous other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Francis Dutch-Heisz and Pauline Joyce Heisz; maternal grandparents, Carl and Bertha Abraham; and two infant brothers, Ronald Jr. and Rodney.

Derrick's life was a testament to his creative, selfless, and spirited nature. His passion for adventure, his dedication to his work, and his love for his family and community will continue to inspire those who were fortunate enough to know him. His memory will live on in the hearts of his loved ones and in the communities he served.

A funeral service will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9, at Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative, 15985 WI-131, Gays Mills. Visitation will be held from 1 p.m. until the time of the service. A celebration of Derrick's life will be held in Brodhead at a later date. Online condolences may be expressed at www.vossfh.com.

GEORGE TEARMAN

George Henry Tearman II, age 89, passed away on Aug. 25, 2023 while at the Evansville Manor.

George was born on Sept. 20, 1933 in Mobridge, South Dakota, the son of John and Alice (Thompson) Tearman. George married Gloria Annett Rabuck on May 5, 1990 at the Wesleyan Church in Janesville.

George worked for over 22 years for GM in Janesville prior to his retirement in 1990. He enjoyed collecting items, especially model cars and



coins and enjoyed gambling with his wife Gloria in their retirement. George was meticulous in his care and cleanliness for his tools and equipment he had in his garage. He was also known to wear his red flannel so his favorite grandchildren could pick him over grandma.

George is survived by his wife, Gloria; nine children;

three step children; a brother, Vernon and many grandchildren, nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

George was preceded in death by three siblings, James, Rose Marie Schneider and Claudia June Nenneman.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be directed to the family in his memory.

Private family funeral services will be held at a later date at the DL Newcomer Funeral Home in Brodhead. For times, dates and places please call Laura Baker at 608-751-6362.

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