

Brodhead Independent Register

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SHOPPING NEWS

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WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25, 2023

FREE TAKE ONE

Juda 2023 flag football teams3
 Prent makes donation to Blackhawk.....5
 Halloween coloring contest...8

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 Register

BTC hosts state land judging contests

Blackhawk Technical College was the host of the 2023 Wisconsin State Land Judging Contest held Tuesday, Oct. 10.

Those participating were FFA students from Bay Port, Beaver Dam, Blackhawk, Cassville, Cuba City, Dodgeville, Elkhorn, Evansville, Fennimore, Juda, Lake Mills, Lancaster, Milton, Monticello, Mt. Horeb, Potosi, Platteville, Potosi, Prairie du Chien, River Ridge, Seneca, Shullsburg, Sun Prairie East, Sun Prairie West, and Wauzeka. There were a total of 175 students from 25 schools.

The students traveled to the Jen and Gary Brooks farm, located north of Twin Grove. The students reviewed four soil pits and determined the position in landscape, slope of the field, determined type and degree of erosion or if there is deposition, evaluated

soil properties, such as texture, structure, and drainage, estimated slope, ranked land classes, observed soil limitations, checked for invasive species, and recommended conservation practices.

The senior results are as follows: Top individual was Molly Olson of Monticello, second place went to Sydney Recker of Potosi, third was Miranda Kieler of Potosi, fourth was Brendon Jentz of River Ridge, and fifth place went to Hailey Kramer of River Ridge. In team results, Monticello placed first, Potosi second, River Ridge third, Lancaster fourth, and Juda fifth. The top five teams qualified for the national land judging contest, to be held next April in Oklahoma.

Thank you go to Rufer and Son for digging the pits for the contest. Also, Jeff Deni-

ger of the Natural Resources Conservation Service was the official judge of the contest. Local Land and Water Conservation staff Tonya Gratz, Tess Wallner, and Todd Jenson, as well as local NRCS staff Emily Colson, Ashley Letcher, Chelsea Gruber, Kristin Fischer, and Jason Thomas ran the contest. Insight FS sponsored the meal. Monson Septic sponsored a porta potty. Wisconsin Association of Ag Educators sponsored the awards. Diane Morgan, Ken Engelke, and Rick Bockhop managed the scoring room. Rena Koning catered the meal. Jeremy Luckey provided the cover crop seed for reseeded the soil pits. Blackhawk Tech staff and students helped throughout the contest. And lastly, a big thank you to Jen and Gary Brooks for agreeing to be the host farm for the contest.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Brodhead Independent Register

Blackhawk Technical College was the host of the 2023 Wisconsin State Land Judging Contest held Tuesday, Oct. 10. Top: The first place team from Monticello (from left): Caleb Heiser, Mirielle Smith, Ella Salas, and Molly Olson. Above: The fifth place team from Juda (from left): Briley Swedlund, Katie Brooks, Michael Hosch, and Kelci Cameron. The top five teams in the state competition qualify for the national land judging contest to be held next April in Oklahoma.

Trunk or treat and wine walk coming to Monroe

Longtime popular events to be held same week this autumn



SUBMITTED PHOTO Brodhead Independent Register

Monroe business 213 Mercantile, located downtown, shows off an elegant display of cupcakes. The business is looking forward to Black Friday/Small Business Saturday on Nov. 24 and 25. Normal business hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

After a successful start to the fall season in Monroe, which has included a fall festival at the farmers market and an art walk, the next few weeks will see two popular and longtime events return.

Trunk or Treat, an event on the inner lanes of the downtown square held since 2006, will feature approximately 40 cars from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 29.

Sponsored by Alphorn Ford of Monroe, the event is free for attendees and participants. Trick or treating occurs literally out of the trunks of vehicles. Main Street does not set a theme, but Jordan Nordby, Main Street Monroe's executive director, notes how the decorations have only gotten better, with some participants setting up photo ops and bringing inflatables.

Robin Nafzger, owner of House to Home Designs, has been bringing a vehicle down and dressing up each year since the beginning. "I live out in the country, and I love that this allows families in surrounding communities to come downtown and be in a safe and secure environment. The streets are closed. It's just great fun." Anyone wanting to participate only needs

See TRUNK OR TREAT, Page 2

RC veterans service offices consolidating

By Paul Crawford, Director RC VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

I am excited to inform you that the Rock County Veterans Service Offices will be combining into one office in a centralized location in Rock County.

In early January of 2024 we will officially be moving out of the Janesville Courthouse and Beloit Eclipse Center, consolidating to 1747 Center Ave., Janesville, in front of the Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Rock County Resource Center building. This is an incredible step for the assistance of our veterans.

The new building will encompass a full range of benefits for our veterans. It will have closed door offices to provide privacy, ADA compliant bathrooms, a waiting area, and a conference room which will allow us to better assist veterans with tele-hearing appoint-

ments. As of now, we are four employees, and we are split between two offices. This consolidation will put us all under one roof which will allow us to provide more efficient services.

Consolidation is one pillar of why we are moving. Another pillar is bringing in additional services. We are looking to bring in the Vet Center and Veterans Outreach and Recovery Program (VORP). Vet Center is a free counseling service for veterans. Veterans Outreach and Recovery Program is a State of Wisconsin run program that assists veterans who are homeless or in crisis. This building can be a beacon of our appreciation for our veterans and the sacrifices they have made for our country.

The goal of our office is and has always been to reach and assist the veterans of Rock

County. I am aware of the magnitude of this move. Our offices have been in their current locations for over 20 years now and this kind of change can create challenges.

We will continue to offer alternate methods of contact and travel including virtual Zoom/TEAMS/telephone appointments, digital signatures via DocuSign, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Vets Driving Vets Program, and we can also set up home visits.

I know there will be questions or concerns about this move, and I will gladly try to answer all of them.

Please feel free to contact me directly at paul.crawford@co.rock.wi.us or 608-757-5551.

Thank you for your continued support and thank you to the veterans of Rock County for your service. Semper Fidelis.

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UWW students admitted to education program

A total of 154 students at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater were admitted into the College of Education and Professional Studies at UW-Whitewater, visit www.uww.edu/coeps.

The following students have been admitted to the Professional Education program in fall 2023 as part of their journey toward entering the workforce as educators:

Beloit

- Carmela Hyde-Pulliam, who is majoring in Early Childhood Education.
- Eric Funk, who is majoring in Music.
- Kobe Chandler, who is majoring in Physical Education.
- Dustin Smith, who is majoring in Special Education.
- Suzanne Nimz, who is majoring in Special Education.

Brodhead

- Justy Burhans, who is majoring in Early Childhood Education.

Browntown

- Devan Schulte, who is majoring in Special Education.

Clinton

- Kristy Mueller, who is majoring in Special Education.
- Melissa Johnson, who is majoring in Special Education.

Edgerton

- Zack Gurney, who is majoring in Music.

Janesville

- Madi Gilbank, who is majoring in Art Education.
- Vanessa Torres, who is majoring in Art Education.
- Simone Birkholz, who is majoring in Early Childhood Education.
- Trinitie Lissa, who is majoring in Early Childhood Education.
- Kallie Lux, who is majoring in Elementary-Middle Education.
- Emily Thiel, who is majoring in Elementary-Middle Education.
- Natalia Kaster, who is majoring in Elementary-Middle Education.
- Becky Frederickson, who is majoring in English.
- Brooke Schroeder, who is majoring in Physical Education.
- Aaron Roach, who is majoring in Physical Education.
- Ethan Thompson, who is majoring in Physical Education.
- Caleb Babcock, who is majoring in Liberal Arts.
- McKenna Bennett, who is majoring in Special Education.
- Hannah Koehn, who is majoring in Special Education.

Milton

- Libby Czerwonka, who is majoring in Early Childhood Education.
- Adam Hasenstab, who is majoring in Elementary-Middle Education.
- Makenzie Wisch, who is majoring in Elementary Education.
- Jayce Schroeder, who is majoring in English.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Brodhead Independent-Register

Top: Participants in Trunk or Treat 2022 pose in downtown Monroe. This year's Trunk or Treat will be held in the downtown square on Sunday, Oct. 29, from 2 to 4 p.m. Above: Participants in the spring 2023 wine walk pose in downtown Monroe. There will be another wine walk, the second and final of the year, on Thursday, Nov. 2.

• Trunk or treat (Continued from front page)

to pre-register with Main Street.

Nafzger has also participated in every wine walk. "I've never seen anyone having a bad time," she says with a smile. The second and final wine walk of the year will be a few days after Trunk or Treat on Thursday, Nov. 2. House to Home Designs is one of 20 participating stores. While the spring one is always good, there's something about the fall one that makes it even better. "People are starting to think about Christmas and that's where our focus shifts to also in the store." Nordby remarks that while Trunk or Treat is all about kids having fun, the wine walk is all about the adults having fun.

The popular event, which is both a fundraiser for the 501(c)3 nonprofit and a retail event showcasing a variety of downtown businesses, has three different ticket options. One is a Designated Driver ticket for \$20, General Admission for \$30, and VIP for \$40. For general admission, the event is from 5 to 8:30 p.m., while VIP starts at 4 p.m. and includes a gift bag with commemorative wine glass, as well as a voucher for a specialty cocktail at Minhas Kitchen, which is sponsoring the event.

And while it's called a wine walk, each location will have two samples for sampling which may be a red and white wine or a beer or a cider. Hawk's Mill Winery, located in Browntown, which has unveiled wines

at the event in the past, will continue to have a presence. All participating stores will also provide food which is paired with the beverages being served. For example, Heartland Graphics will feature food from its next-door neighbor Bullquarian Brewhouse. Max's Threads will have items from Cactus Co Booze and Bites which is just finalizing its menu. International wines will also be a focus. "It's a great 'date night' event and we get a lot of groups too. I think it's been so popular because you get your pick of 40 samples and it is things you may not ordinarily be tasting in shops you wouldn't automatically be in," summarizes Nordby.

Beyond that, Nordby makes mention that Main Street's calendar of events through the end of the year will be action packed. The indoor farmers market starts in November, Shop Small Saturday is Nov. 25, the Lighted Christmas Parade is Friday, Dec. 1, and the annual retail promotion (House to Home Designs is again a participating store) starts Nov. 1. Last year 40 businesses participated including retail, service, and eateries.

Tickets for the wine walk may be purchased online at mainstreetmonroe.org or in person at Edelweiss Gifts and More, Heartland Graphics, and Toy Haus. Tickets may also be purchased by calling 608-328-4023. Anyone with questions on any event is also encouraged to call.

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Juda fourth through sixth grade flag football teams for 2023



PHOTO COURTESY LARSEN PHOTOGRAPHY Brodhead Independent-Register

The Juda Chiefs fourth through sixth grade flag football team 1 for 2023. Standing: Tenley Sullivan, Coach Justin Bolton, Lucas Scheidegger. Kneeling: Leim Nangle, Brogen Sullivan, Tucker Bolton, Leah Whitney.



PHOTO COURTESY LARSEN PHOTOGRAPHY Brodhead Independent-Register

The Juda Chiefs fourth through sixth grade flag football team 2 for 2023. Standing: Samuel Wallace, Coach Joel Wallace, William Wallace, Coach Dave Klopfenstein, Michael Klopfenstein. Kneeling: Grant McCullough, Bentley Skattum, Everhet Keehn.



PHOTO COURTESY LARSEN PHOTOGRAPHY Brodhead Independent-Register

The Juda Chiefs fourth through sixth grade flag football team 3 for 2023. Standing: Coach Almanzo Friedly, Coach Justin Roth, Coach Dakota Davis. Kneeling: Max Zimmerman, Mason Rackow, Evan Johnson, Kyland Cupps. Sitting: Kambrya Kainz.

Humane society to hold lick or treat event

The Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin will host its annual Lick or Treat event on Saturday, Oct. 28 in the shelter parking lot from noon to 3 p.m. HSSW staff, volunteers, and fellow community members will have their vehicles decorated for Halloween and treats will be available for children and canines alike.

There will also be a “spooky snacks”

bake sale and raffle items available. Admission is free, but a \$5 donation is recommended.

Costumes are encouraged and dogs are welcome.

For more information and to sign up to have your vehicle included in the trick-or-trunk route, visit petsgohome.org/lick-or-treat or contact Shannon Redden at redden@petsgohome.org.

Rock County medical examiners release identity of person found in Rock River

The Rock County Medical Examiner’s Department is confirming the name of the individual that was recovered from the Rock River on Sunday, Oct. 15. The incident was reported to authorities on Oct. 15, at or about 4:43 p.m.

The individual can be identified as: Roger W. Wentler, 60, of Janesville.

Mr. Wentler was pronounced deceased at the scene on Oct. 15. A forensic examination was completed on Oct. 16. Preliminary results from the examination

confirm that Mr. Wentler died from accidental drowning. Additional testing is also underway at this time.

This incident remains under investigation by the Janesville Police Department and the Rock County Medical Examiner’s Department.

BBB Tip: Celebrate Halloween on a budget

Consumers are gearing up to celebrate Halloween. Total Halloween spending is expected to reach a record \$12.2 billion, exceeding last year’s record of \$10.6 billion, according to the National Retail Federation’s annual survey conducted by Prosper Insights and Analysis. A record number of people (73%) will participate in Halloween-related activities this year, up from 69% in 2022.

Those numbers can seem daunting for a single day, especially when watching the family budget. However, there are ways to keep the fun stylish and on budget. Better Business Bureau recommends the following tips this Halloween:

Look around your home

Check your closet. There are probably hidden surprises to help you throw together a killer costume! Getting creative will not only help save money but will save space, too.

Rent a costume

If the idea of spending money on buying a costume isn’t quite appealing because you will only wear it once, consider renting. Renting a costume leaves room in the budget. Research rental companies on BBB.org, check the store policy regarding trying on costumes, inspect the condition of the outfit, and read the rental agreement carefully before signing anything.

Buy in bulk

It may seem counter-intuitive, but buying more can save you money! Buying in bulk lessens the cost per item. Budgeting can be especially handy on a night like Halloween, especially considering that there might be more trick-or-treaters this year. Factory-wrapped candy will last a long time, even if you have leftovers. And let’s be honest, leftovers are pretty tasty, even after Hal-

loween.

Always check the return policy

Seasonal shops carry unique items for a short period in a temporary location or online. When shopping a seasonal vendor, understand the store’s return policy before making a purchase. Remember: Buying a bunch of stuff with the intent of simply returning it after Oct. 31 is considered fraud.

Shop smart online

When shopping from an online website, the first step is ensuring the URL starts with “HTTPS” and includes a lock symbol. The S in “HTTPS” stands for secure. Look up the website’s privacy policy and contact information. If it is not clearly listed, or they only have an email as the point of contact, take that as a big red flag and shop elsewhere.

Also, be sure to use your credit card instead of your debit card, as credit cards not only provide additional protection but it’s also easier to dispute a fraudulent charge. Click here for more tips on shopping online.

Seasonal stores

If you decide to shop from a seasonal store, ask whether or not they will be open after the holiday, how long they plan to stay open, and if they will accept returns after Halloween is over. If they plan to close up shop on Nov. 1 or refuse returns after, either consider shopping elsewhere or take more time to be sure that item

is exactly what you want before making the purchase.

More tips for seasonal “pop-up” stores:

- Ask the owner if there is a website in case you have to contact them later.
- Save every receipt.
- Use a credit card to dispute problem charges with the card’s issuer.
- Make sure you are clear on what items are final sale.

Attending a special event or visiting a haunted house

Before purchasing tickets, research the group offering the experience and make sure that there are no complaints about the company hosting the event.

- Check out the company at BBB.org. Read what previous customers have to say, and see how the business responds to complaints.
- Check BBB Scam Tracker and see if other consumers have filed a report about the event host.
- Search the business online by adding the word “Complaint,” “Reviews” or “Scam” after their name for different search results.

Have a safe, happy Halloween!

For more information or further inquiries, contact the Wisconsin BBB at www.bbb.org/wisconsin, 414-847-6000 or 1-800-273-1002. Consumers also can find more information about how to protect themselves from scams by following the Wisconsin BBB on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

FOOTVILLE

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A celebration of life for Derrick Heisz (Jan. 1, 1979-Aug. 24, 2023) will be held at the American Legion in Orfordville on Saturday, Oct. 28, from 1 to 5 p.m.

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Wisconsin NRCS to accept ag easement applications

IRA funding will provide an additional \$189 million nationwide

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) encourages landowners interested in restoring and protecting critical wetlands, agricultural lands and grasslands to consider enrolling their property into conservation easements.

Historically, the 2018 Farm Bill has provided USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) with technical and financial assistance to help private landowners, tribes, land trusts and other groups protect these valuable lands.

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) – signed in August 2022 by President Biden and implemented in 2023 – provides an additional \$19.5 billion over five years to support USDA's conservation programs that yield climate change mitigation benefits. The IRA represents the single largest investment in climate and clean energy solutions in American history, allowing more landowners access to conservation assistance.

For the next fiscal year that began Oct. 1, IRA funding will provide an additional \$189 million nationwide to the NRCS Agricultural Conservation Easement Program



PHOTO COURTESY NRCS Brodhead Independent-Register

Through ACEP Agricultural Land Easements, NRCS provides funds to conservation partners to purchase conservation easements on private working lands. This program helps keep working lands in production, especially in areas experiencing development pressure. Landowners continue to own their property but voluntarily enter into a legal agreement with a cooperating entity to purchase an easement.

(ACEP), which compensates landowners for voluntarily enrolling their land, focusing on restoration and protection of wetlands as well as conserving productive agricultural lands and grasslands.

Wetland reserve easements

Through ACEP Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE), NRCS helps landowners and tribes restore and protect wetland ecosystems.

Wetlands are one of nature's most productive ecosystems

providing many ecological, societal, and economic benefits. WREs are either permanent or for 30 years in length.

Eligible lands include farmed or drained wetlands that can successfully be restored, croplands or grasslands that have been altered by flooding, and riparian areas that link protected wetland areas.

As part of the easement, NRCS and the landowner work together to develop a plan for the restoration and maintenance of the wetland.

Before applying, the applicant should make themselves familiar with the terms of the easement and process required before an easement is in place. Applicants are encouraged to read the recently developed guide, Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE) through the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) – What to Expect, to learn more.

NRCS is expanding the national priority areas eligible for IRA funding through ACEP-Wetland Reserve Easements fiscal year 2024. NRCS

priority focus areas include:

- Land with soils high in organic carbon.
- Eligible lands that will be restored to and managed as forests like bottomland hardwood forests.
- Eligible lands in existing forest cover that will be managed as forests.
- Several geographically specific priorities (i.e., former cranberry bogs, wet meadows, and ephemeral wetlands in grassland ecosystems).

Agricultural land easements

Through ACEP Agricultural Land Easements (ALE), NRCS provides funds to conservation partners to purchase conservation easements on private working lands.

This program helps keep working lands in production, especially in areas experiencing development pressure.

Landowners continue to own their property but voluntarily enter into a legal agreement with a cooperating entity to purchase an easement. All ALE easements are permanent.

Eligible lands include privately owned cropland, rangeland, grassland, pasture and forests. The cooperating entity applies for matching funds from NRCS for the purchase of an easement from the landowner, permanently protecting its agricultural use and conservation values.

Landowners do not apply

directly to NRCS for funding under this program, but work through and with the cooperating partner, such as state or local agencies, non-profit entities or tribes.

NRCS is expanding the national priority areas eligible for ACEP Agricultural Land Easements through IRA funding in fiscal year 2024. NRCS priority focus areas include:

• Grasslands in areas of highest risk for conversion to non-grassland uses to prevent the release of soil carbon stores.

• Agricultural lands under threat of conversion to non-agricultural uses.

• State-specific priorities including rice cultivation on subsiding highly organic soils.

NRCS Wisconsin will also benefit from ACEP funds made available by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) through an interagency agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency.

“Due to the increase of funding made available this year through the GLRI and IRA, our agency has the potential to fund a quantity of easements unparalleled in recent years,” said Dave Gundlach, Assistant State Conservationist for Easements.

More information

Applications for the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program WRE and ALE are taken on a continuous basis and are ranked and considered for funding once a year. The deadline to submit applications for fiscal year 2024 is Nov. 13.

“There are several steps landowners and eligible entities can take in preparation of their application. I encourage them to visit our website for more information,” adds Gundlach.

Landowners and tribes interested in Wetland Reserve Easements should contact their local USDA service center to get started. Partners interested in Agricultural Land Easements should contact the NRCS Wisconsin State Office to get started.

Gov. Evers joined WEDC at economic summit

Gov. Tony Evers joined the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) at the Wisconsin Economic Summit in Appleton on Monday, Oct. 23.

The second annual Wisconsin Economic Summit ran from Oct. 23 to 24 in Appleton and was hosted by the WEDC. The event draws more than 400 economic developers, state, local, and business leaders, as well as nonprofits, together to share ideas and solutions for tackling workforce challenges and building an economy that works for all.

This year, the focus of the summit was on partnerships between the state, local gov-

ernments, businesses, and nonprofits that are addressing worker training, transportation, housing, child care, and more.

Much of this year's summit highlights the efforts of Workforce Innovation Grant recipients. Created by Gov. Evers in 2021 and administered by WEDC and the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD), \$128 million in grants was awarded to 27 projects across the state working to solve their region's most pressing workforce challenges.

New at the Wisconsin Economic Summit this year, the

See SUMMIT, Page 6

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Prent makes donation to Blackhawk's new manufacturing center

The Prent Corporation will donate \$250,000 to the Blackhawk Technical College Foundation to fund a cutting-edge manufacturing lab space within the college's new Innovative Manufacturing Education Center (I-MEC).

Rachel Pregont Andres, Prent Corporation Executive Vice President, made the announcement during a groundbreaking ceremony held on Wednesday, Oct. 18, at Blackhawk's Central Campus.

"This is an occasion of immense pride and recognition for the true partnership that exists between Prent, GOEX and the faculty at BTC," said Andres, who also is a Blackhawk District Board member.

Attended by more than 60 industry partners, community leaders and Blackhawk staff, the groundbreaking event celebrated the start of construction on the I-MEC building. The state-of-the-art facility will be located on the south side of Central Campus and feature resources to support hands-on learning experiences for students in the following programs: Automation Systems Technology, Computer Numeric Control Technician, Electro-Mechanical Technology, Industrial Maintenance Mechanic, Manufacturing Engineering Technology, Welding and Fabrication, and HVAC-R.

Currently, Blackhawk's manufacturing programs are housed at the Advanced Manufacturing Training Center in Milton, which was previously owned by the Blackhawk Technical College Foundation. In May, the Foundation sold the property to Kandu Industries and then donated the proceeds of \$7 million to the college for the new facility at Central Campus.

"The Blackhawk Foundation recognized why this made sense for the college and, more importantly, why this made sense for our stu-

dents," said Dave Holterman, President of the Blackhawk Technical College Foundation and Vice President of First Community Bank.

Anticipated for completion by fall 2024, the I-MEC building will encompass approximately 52,000 square feet and include dedicated welding areas and specialized laboratory facilities, including a manufacturing cell provided by Prent. The existing administration building will connect to the new facility and transformed into classrooms. Construction is being managed by JP Cullen, with architectural expertise provided by Angus-Young Associates. Blackhawk's manufacturing classes will continue to be held at the Milton facility through the spring semester.



From left to right: Dave Holterman, President of the Blackhawk Technical College Foundation; Dr. Tracy Pierner, President of Blackhawk; Joe Pregont, CEO of Prent; Rachel Pregont Andres, Executive Vice President of Prent; Lisa Hurda, Director of Advancement and Foundation at Blackhawk; Joe Pregont, President of Prent.



From left to right: Joe Stadelman, Principal Architect and President of Angus-Young Associates; Lisa Hurda, Director of Advancement and Foundation at Blackhawk; Joe Pregont, President of Prent; Bobbi Bishofberger, Blackhawk Welding Instructor; Mark Holzman, Janesville School District Superintendent and Blackhawk District Board member; Rachel Pregont Andres, Executive Vice President of Prent; Joe Pregont, CEO of Prent; Dr. Tracy Pierner, President of Blackhawk; Greg Phillips, Dean of Manufacturing, Apprenticeship, Technology and Transportation at Blackhawk; Bryan Coddington, Blackhawk Engineering Technology Instructor; Sam Potts, Chief Estimator at JP Cullen; Dave Holterman, President of the Blackhawk Technical College Foundation and Vice President of First Community Bank; Rob Hendrickson, Frito-Lay Technical Director and Blackhawk District Board member; Rich Deprez, TDS Telecom Network Consultant and Blackhawk District Board member.

LARGE PUBLIC AUCTION

SUNDAY, OCT. 29 • 9AM START • TWO AUCTION RINGS!
SANDWICH FAIRGROUNDS, BUILDING 2 • SANDWICH, IL

ITEMS: Tools & equipment, ammo, antiques & collectibles, vintage toys, golf cart, vintage gas pumps, & more!

OWNER(S): Jerry Shaw - Somonauk, IL; Bobby Nelson - Plano, IL; Tom Van Landschoot & Cam Crumes - Oswego, IL.

See website for full content & terms.

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KOLDEN AUTOMOTIVE LIQUIDATION AUCTION

SATURDAY, OCT. 28 • 10 A.M.
2550 DEWEY AVE., BELOIT, WI
PREVIEW: FRIDAY, OCT. 27 • NOON-4 P.M.

DOUG HAS RETIRED AFTER DECADES OF WORKING ON CARS. We are liquidating his shop with about anything you would need to work on cars. This auction will be LIVE in person with a select online bidding catalog. This auction is packed with hundreds of lots of Snap-On, Matco, MAC, Blue Point, 2 post auto lifts, like new waste oil furnace, Snap On diagnostic center, Snap On tool chests, tire machines, wheel balancers, trans jacks, oil filter crusher, acetylene torch, Miller welder, ladders, signs, parts bins, hydraulic jacks, exhaust evac system, Snap-On 80 gallon air compressor, pallet racking, jacks, refrigerant collection systems, parts washers, like new waste oil furnace, specialty tools, NASCAR collectibles, office equipment, and much, much more. Online bidding is now open and we will be adding more to the online catalog as we continue to setup. There will be much more at this auction than what is listed in the online catalog.

Andrew Kitson 815-973-0915 • www.KitsonAuctions.com

PUBLIC FARMLAND AUCTION

AT THE KENDALL COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
SATURDAY, DEC. 9th, 2023
9 A.M. START

11889 FOX RIVER DR. (JOHNSON ST.), NEWARK, IL 60541

Approximately 392.5082* acres.
 Separated into 8 parcels.



PARCEL 1	PARCEL 2
47.9551 acres	44.9737 acres
PARCEL 3	PARCEL 4
47.196 acres	59.1971 acres 21.427 acres within city
PARCEL 5	PARCEL 6
56.4913 acres 19.45 acres within city	26.265± acres
PARCEL 7	PARCEL 8
2.48± acres	7.95 acres 19.45 acres within city next to Grain Elevator

8 HOME ALLOCATIONS WILL BE GIVEN FOR THIS AUCTION. LOCATIONS TO BE DETERMINED.

Owner(s): NGH Farms LLC

SEE WEBSITE FOR SOIL INFORMATION & TERMS

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VIEW OUR VIDEO FOR THIS PROPERTY



Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Public Hearing will be held before the Plan Commission of the City of Brodhead on **Monday, November 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.** at the City of Brodhead Municipal Building located at 1111 W. Second Avenue, Brodhead, Wisconsin to consider an ordinance amending the zoning classification of the following described property from R-1 Single Family Residential to R-2 One & Two Family Residential.

CSM 3556 (V13-P199) LOT 3 BNG PRT LOT 4 CSM 2167, BLK 235 OP, (vacant lots on the corner of 21st Street & W 4th Ave) IN THE CITY OF BRODHEAD, GREEN COUNTY, WISCONSIN

A full and complete copy of the proposed ordinance is on file in the office of the City Clerk for the City of Brodhead. A map of the affected property may be obtained from the common council through the office of the Clerk for the City of Brodhead.

Dated this 29th day of September, 2023.

Nikolai Wahl, Clerk

The Independent Register
10/18, 10/25/2023
WNAXLP 444832

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The Independent Register
10/11, 10/18, 10/25 & 11/1/2023
WNAXLP 444942

VILLAGE OF OFORDVILLE Liquor License Notice

Notice is hereby given that the following application is on file with the Village Clerk of the Village of Orfordville. License will expire June 30, 2024

Class "B Intoxicating Liquor License" to Taqueria Guzman LLC, Oscar Zaragoza owner, for premises located at 100 E Spring Street.

The Village Board will decide on the above mentioned application at the Regular Board Meeting on November 13, 2023.

Sherri Waegle
Village Clerk
Village of Orfordville

The Independent Register
10/25/2023
WNAXLP 445620

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF BRODHEAD

RE: Vacation, Abandonment and Discontinuance of a portion of a public street in the City of Brodhead, Green County, Wisconsin, described as follows:

That part of 8th Street located within the Original Plat of the City of Brodhead, Green County, Wisconsin described as follows: bounded on the east by the west boundary of the right-of-way of W. 3rd Avenue, bounded on the north by the south boundary of Lot 173 of the Original Plat Block 38, bounded on the west by a line running parallel from the western boundary of Lot 173 of the Original Plat Block 38 to the western boundary of Lot 309 of the Original Plat Block 64, and bounded on the south by the north boundary of Lot 309 of the Original Plat Block 64.

Reserving a permanent utility easement including for such purpose the right to operate necessary equipment thereon, and the right of reasonable ingress and egress to maintain said utilities.

Notice is hereby given that there has been a preliminary resolution by the Common Council of the City of Brodhead on August 21, 2023, tentatively vacating and discontinuing the portion of the platted public street described above in the city.

1. This preliminary resolution is subject to the passage of the final resolution by the common council after the public hearing scheduled for such consideration to be held on November 20, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. in the Common Council Chambers of the City of Brodhead located at 1111 West 2nd Avenue, Brodhead, Wisconsin.

2 All persons, their agents or attorneys will be given an opportunity to be heard relative thereto.

Dated this 16th day of October 2023.

CITY OF BRODHEAD

Keri Miller, City Treasurer/
Deputy City Clerk

The Independent Register
10/25, 11/1, 11/8/2023
WNAXLP 445682

ORDINANCE 005-2023 A 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: The following described property is hereby rezoned from (Single-Family Residential District (R-1) to One and Two-Family Residential District (R-2): Lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of Block 8 of Pierce's Addition in the City of Brodhead, Green County, Wisconsin. The Official Zoning Map of the City of Brodhead is hereby amended to show this change

Edward "Casey" Jones, Mayor
Attest: Keri Miller, Treasurer/
Deputy City Clerk
Date Adopted: 10/16/2023
Date Published: 10/25/2023
Effective Date: 10/16/2023

The Independent Register
10/25/2023
WNAXLP 445685

Town of Avon Elector Meeting

The Town of Avon will be holding a special elector meeting on November 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall located at 16513 W Beloit Newark Rd, Brodhead, WI to approve the 2023 tax levy to be collected in 2024. Complete details and the official posting can be viewed at the town's public posting spots (Avon Town Hall, Sugar River Bank of Brodhead, and Debbie Jean's Custom Framing and Whimsical Gifts) and the town website (www.townofavonwi.gov).

The Independent Register
10/25, 11/1/2023
WNAXLP 445794

Zoning and Planning Meeting
Town of Avon
Avon Town Hall
16513 W Beloit Newark Road,
Brodhead, WI 53520
November 7th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

The Zoning and Planning Board for the Town of Avon will be meeting on November 7th at 6:30 p.m. to hear and review the application submitted by Phillip Nass 326 Hackamore Drive, Florissant, CO 80816 to rezone 2 +/- acres located at 17312 W State Rd 81, Brodhead, WI 53520 in section 8, NE & NW ¼, parcel number 6-1-74.1 from A-Prime to A-1.

If you approve or have an objection to this request, please express your actions by letter, telephone, or in person. If we do not hear from you, will infer that you have no objections. Letters can be mailed to 15444 W Skinner Rd, Brodhead, WI 53520. For a telephone number of one of Zoning and Planning board members, please contact Stephanie Schwartzlow at 608-921-3656.

Stephanie Schwartzlow
Avon Town Clerk
608-921-3656

The Independent Register
10/25, 11/1/2023
WNAXLP 445796

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT GREEN COUNTY

In the matter of the name change of: Barbara Marie Elmer

Notice and Order for Name Change Hearing Case No. 23-CV-168

NOTICE IS GIVEN:
A petition was filed asking to change the name of the person listed above:

From: Barbara Marie Elmer
To: Barbara Marie Elmer
Birth Certificate: Barbara Marie Hauri

IT IS ORDERED:
This petition will be heard in the Circuit Court of Green County, State of Wisconsin:
Judge's Name: Hon. Thomas J. Vale

Place: Green County Justice Center, 2841 6th St., Monroe WI 53566
Date: November 30, 2023
Time: 11:00AM

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, 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 Independent Register a newspaper published in Brodhead WI 53520 Green County, State of Wisconsin.

BY THE COURT:

Electronically signed by
Thomas J. Vale
Circuit Court Judge
October 20, 2023

The Independent Register
10/25, 11/1, 11/8/2023
WNAXLP 445927

NOTICE OF PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING FOR CITY OF BRODHEAD

Notice is hereby given that on **Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.** The Common Council will meet in the City Council Chambers 1111 W 2nd Avenue and Virtually via GoToMeeting for the purpose of holding a PUBLIC HEARING on the PROPOSED BUDGET for 2024. The proposed budget is available for inspection at the City Hall, 1111 W 2nd Avenue, Brodhead, WI from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Additionally, a copy of the budget is available at the Brodhead Memorial Public Library, 1207 25th Street.

The following is a summary of the Proposed 2024 Budget.

Dated: October 16, 2023

	Approved Budget 2023	Proposed Budget 2024	Percentage Change
Revenue			
Taxes			
Property tax collections	\$2,015,570	\$2,027,283	0.58%
PILOT	3,342	21,204	534.40%
Tax Equivalent	191,314	204,336	6.81%
Other			
Special Assessments	--	--	0.00%
Intergovernmental revenues	1,007,508	1,162,146	15.35%
Licenses & permits	65,041	64,303	-1.13%
Fines, forfeitures & penalties	27,835	27,835	0.00%
Public charges for service	103,120	80,292	-22.14%
Interest income	8,777	32,500	270.29%
Misc. Revenues	278,520	69,338	-75.10%
Total General Fund Revenues	\$3,701,026	\$3,689,237	-0.32%
Expenditures			
General Government	\$ 421,328	\$ 481,905	14.38%
Public Safety	1,821,727	1,645,832	-9.66%
Public Works	459,925	550,422	19.68%
Health & Human Services	139,000	159,000	14.39%
Culture, Recreation & Education	258,452	254,009	-1.72%
Transfer to debt service	420,599	418,073	-0.60%
Transfer to library fund	179,996	179,996	0.00%
	\$3,701,026	\$3,689,237	-0.32%

Keri Miller, Treasurer
City of Brodhead

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://meet.goto.com/393983413>

You can also dial in using your phone.

Access Code: 393-983-413
United States: +1 (646) 749-3122

The Independent Register
10/25/2023
WNAXLP 445900

Town of Decatur- Special Town Meeting Proposed 2024 Budget Hearing Wednesday, November 1, 2023, 5:00pm Decatur Town Hall 1408 14th Street, Brodhead WI 53520

The Proposed 2024 Budget Hearing and Special Town Meeting for the Town of Decatur will be held on **Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at 5:00 PM at the Town Hall, 1408 14th Street, Brodhead.** A copy of the entire proposed budget and supporting documents are available on the town website at www.townofdecatur.com, or upon request from the Town Clerk by phoning 897-4965 (Town Hall), or by writing: P O Box 333, Brodhead, WI 53520, or by email: clerktreasurer@townofdecaturwi.gov.

BUDGET SUMMARY

	2023 BUDGET	PROPOSED FOR 2024
REVENUES:		
General Property Tax	\$306,878.00	\$581,878.00
Proposed Levy Increase	\$275,000.00	\$0.00
Curbside Collection	\$131,972.00	\$144,000.00
Debt Service	\$56,747.00	\$56,747.00
Other	\$4050.00	\$5,200.00
Intergovernmental Revenues	\$146,145.00	\$206,295.00
Licenses & Permits	\$9,470.00	\$12,630.00
Interest	\$600.00	\$5,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Revenues	\$930,862.00	\$1,011,750.00
Beginning Balance	\$211,195.00	\$325,000.00
Designated Funds	\$36,315.00	\$27,787.00
Designated ARPA Funds	\$112,833.00	\$0.00
	\$1,291,205.00	\$1,364,537.00
EXPENDITURES:		
General Government	\$93,585.00	\$128,400.00
Public Safety	\$470,500.00	\$467,000.00
Public Works	\$327,305.00	\$204,117.00
Health & Human Services	\$4,260.00	\$5,010.00
Other	\$8,000.00	\$71,000.00
Debt Service	\$56,747.00	\$56,747.00
Insurance	\$14,100.00	\$12,300.00
Total Expenditures	\$974,497.00	\$944,574.00
Designated Funds	\$27,170.00	\$75,785.00
ARPA Funds	\$0	\$0.00
Ending Balance	\$289,583.00	\$344,178.00
	\$1,291,205.00	\$1,364,537.00

Emma Brugger
Clerk/Treasurer

Posted October 17, 2023 at Town Hall, Website, Trackside Mobil, Brodhead Library
Posted October 25, 2023 in Newspaper

The Independent Register
10/25, 11/1/2023
WNAXLP 445710

DSPS

program helps Wisconsinites repair or replace septic systems

The Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) will soon be re-opening grant applications for the Wisconsin Fund, a program that provides financial assistance to homeowners and small businesses with a failing private onsite wastewater treatment system (POWTS), commonly called septic systems.

Applications are now open and close on Jan. 31, 2024.

Failing POWTS, even if still operating, are a health concern because they contaminate well and ground water with disease-causing bacteria and other microbes. Repairing or replacing these systems can easily cost several thousand dollars, a large financial burden for many homeowners and small businesses. The Wisconsin Fund exists solely to help Wisconsinites with limited resources pay for these repairs.

"DSPS and the Evers Administration realize what a valuable financial lifeline these grants can be for folks in rural Wisconsin," said DSPS Secretary-designee Dan Hereth. "Helping them ensure their well water and ground water are safe is just another way our department protects public safety, and we're proud to administer this program."

Eligibility is based on several criteria, including household income and age of the system. Currently, 67 of Wisconsin's 72 counties participate in the program, as well as the City of Franklin and the Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin. Anyone interested in this funding should contact their county or tribal government to find out if they are eligible and for help preparing grant applications.

The state has administered the Wisconsin Fund since the program started in 1978. However, the program sunsetted at the end of the 2022-23 biennium.

Recognizing the importance of the Wisconsin Fund, Gov. Tony Evers signed 2023 Wisconsin Act 19, which reauthorized the program. Due to the timing of the reauthorization, DSPS was unable to accept grant applications for the 2023-24 budget year. Because grants were not awarded during that year, the department will award up to \$1,680,000 – two years' worth of grant funding – in a single round next year.

Applications close on Jan. 31, 2024, and funds will be disbursed after July 1, 2024, as set by statute.

Summit

(Continued from page 4)

Great Career Try-Out is an opportunity for summit visitors to try advanced simulation technologies being used to train the next generation of Wisconsin workers.

The equipment is being supplied by recipients of the Workforce Innovation Grant.

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Rock Valley Publishing

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to schedule an interview

419423

Help Wanted

City of Brodhead

FULL-TIME PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.

The City of Brodhead is accepting applications for a full-time position in the Public Works Department. Applicant must have a valid driver's license at the time of application. Essential duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following: street maintenance, forestry maintenance, storm sewer maintenance, snow plowing, sanitary sewer maintenance, wastewater facility maintenance, and ability to learn and understand plant operations and laboratory testing. Required on-call time, Monday through Sunday on a rotating schedule.

Complete job description is available on the city's website at www.cityofbrodheadwi.us or may be picked up at City Hall. Please drop off your resume at Brodhead City Hall, mail to City of Brodhead, PO Box 168, Brodhead, WI 53520-0168, or email to kmiller@cityofbrodheadwi.us. Applications will be accepted through Friday, Nov. 3.

The City of Brodhead is an equal opportunity employer.

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for sale

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

Burial Needs

7 CEMETERY PLOTS Willing to sell as a group or individually. Located at Roselawn Memory Gardens 3045 WI-67, Lake Geneva, WI 53147. This is a private sale. Contact Randy, the seller at randy@slpublishers.com.

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real estate

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Campers and RVs

2021 DUTCHMAN 35' 5th Wheel. Mint cond., king bed, fire-place, residential fridge, double vanity sink, pantry, lots of storage. \$39,900. 262-620-6794.

Trucks & Trailers

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CARGO TRAILER 5x8 Enclosed, needs work, Elkhorn location \$495. 262-949-6997.

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The Independent-Register HALLOWEEN COLORING CONTEST



445280

Send your entries to:

Coloring Contest, The Independent-Register, 917 W. Exchange St., Brodhead, WI 53520

Age _____

All entries must be received by Nov. 24, 2023

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Phone _____



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