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Sen. Spreitzer reveals committee assignments and legislative staff

State Senator Mark Spreitzer (D-Beloit) announced his committee assignments and legislative staff as the 2025-2026 legislative session began at the State Capitol. Senator Spreitzer was elected to a four-year term in 2022, and represents communities in Rock, Jefferson, and Walworth Counties – including six cities, two villages, and twenty-one towns. Senator Spreitzer serves as the Senate Democratic Caucus Chair for the 2025-2026 legislative session.

“I am proud to serve as your State Senator, and I look forward to continuing to work for the people of our district and our state,” said Sen. Spreitzer. “It was wonderful to watch the six new members of the Senate Democratic Caucus be sworn in today, and I am incredibly excited to begin this legislative session with a much larger and more diverse caucus. As your State Senator and as the Senate Democratic Caucus Chair, I will work



Senator Mark Spreitzer (D-Beloit) speaks with fellow Senators on the floor of the Wisconsin State Senate ahead of the Senate inauguration on Jan. 6.

PHOTO SUBMITTED Rock Valley Publishing

with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle on issues that matter most to Wisconsinites

and our district. Together, we can move Wisconsin forward.”

Sen. Spreitzer will serve on three committees during the 2025-2026 legislative session.

He has been appointed the ranking Democratic member on the Committee on Government Operations, Labor, and Economic Development. Sen. Spreitzer will also serve on the Committee on Transportation and Local Government, and the Committee on Agriculture and Revenue.

“I look forward to serving on these committees in the new legislative session,” said Sen. Spreitzer. “I was proud of our bipartisan work together during the 2023-2024

legislative session – including new state laws to improve election administration, to invest in local communities, and to support our farmers and protect our environment. I look forward to continuing to work together on the issues that matter to the people of our state. As we begin the new legislative session, I will fight to ensure that we invest in the people and priorities of our district.”

Senator Spreitzer also announced his legislative office staff for the 2025-2026 session:

- Doug Hyant will continue to serve as the Senator’s Chief of Staff. Doug has worked for Senator Spreitzer since 2019, including two sessions in the State Assembly. Prior to working in the state legislature, Doug worked as the Executive Director of the Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee. Doug lives on Madison’s West Side with his wife, Molly, and their two cats, Chickadee and Brig.

- Eleanor (Ellie) Thorman will serve as the Senator’s Policy Director. Ellie has worked for State Senator Jeff Smith, the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, and the State Senate Democratic Committee. Ellie lives in Madison with her cat, Rosie.

- Katie Iliff will serve as the Senator’s Communications

See SPREITZER, Page 4

Rock County nursing program builds infrastructure, skills

By Kristine Zaballos
UW UNIVERSITY MARKETING
AND COMMUNICATIONS
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

At the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater’s Rock County campus, construction is complete on two state-of-the-art spaces where the next generation of students will earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Edgewood College, the result of a collaborative nursing degree program. These graduates will be primed for high-paying jobs – and ready to fulfill a critical regional workforce need.

The new labs feature patient simulators, which introduce nursing students to clinical scenarios in preparation for real clinical interactions and allow them to safely practice team-based care and improve individual skills. Three realistic patient rooms are viewable from a control room that allows instructors to monitor students and record sessions with audio-visual equipment that provides live-feed simulation. In the labs, robot patient simulators are programmed to replicate patient conditions and physiologic responses.

“This learning environment places students in the experience and fosters team-based learning as students learn, train, and work together,” said Rachel Icke, director of academic operations at the School of Nursing at Edgewood College. “This is where students apply their textbook knowledge, learn from their mistakes, practice skills, and improve communication. It’s also when future nurses emerge and begin to build their self-confidence.”

The new nursing labs were open to tour on Dec. 12 during the December Business After Hours/Business After 5 event co-hosted by Forward



Edgewood College nursing instructor Beth Hartwig, third from left, works with nursing students Aiden Brink and Juliann Russella in the new skills lab on the UW-Whitewater at Rock County campus. Like Heidi Rye, Hartwig is also a Mercyhealth employee.

UWW PHOTO/CRAIG SCHREINER Rock Valley Publishing

Janesville, the Greater Beloit Chamber of Commerce, and UW-Whitewater.

“Touring the new labs, it’s amazing that we have this opportunity here in Janesville,” said Heidi Rye, a cardiology nurse practitioner at Mercyhealth in Janesville who is on the faculty at Edgewood College. “It’s a great addition to our community, and students get a quality education close to home.”

Rye, who teaches medical-surgical theory courses for the Collaborative Nursing Program at Edgewood College, says a major benefit of the collaborative program between Edgewood College and UW-Whitewater at Rock County is the smaller class sizes.

“You get more one-on-one time and attention from instructors in smaller groups,” said Rye. “And we stagger the classes so they are closer together so they can have full days off so they can work or take care of their families if they need to.”

A program that meets a critical workforce shortage

The new nursing simulation and skills labs expand the capabilities of the collaborative nursing degree program with Edgewood College, launched in 2023, which allows students to study face-to-face on the Rock County campus without traveling out of the region to earn their degrees. Because students complete their clinical work in area hospitals, clinics and health-care organizations, they are more likely to be hired by those employers and stay in

the region after graduation. In 2023, southeastern Wisconsin experienced more than 1,500 nursing vacancies – a gap the program was designed to help fill.

“You have these goals and missions when you develop a partnership like this, and you really hope it translates to the student experience,” said Icke. “It’s always wonderful when you hear that students recognize that. All of our prerequisite nursing courses are full, and they have been since April.”

Michele Demmin, system director of professional development of nursing education and programs at Mercyhealth, has been involved in developing the collaborative degree program since its inception. She says the program’s collaboration with the hospital, where many of the students do their clinical work, has been successful.

“It is going very well, and we are enjoying having the Edgewood students onsite. Some of the students were part of our Student Nursing Intern Program this past summer, and we hope they continue to stay on with Mercyhealth after they graduate,” said Demmin. “The Edgewood students are very well prepared and professional – they take initiative and ask questions.”

See NURSING, Page 4



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Semi strikes plow in significant accident

On Friday, Jan. 10, at approximately 11:47 a.m., a significant crash occurred on I-39/90 near mile marker 182 eastbound.

The investigation showed the accident involved a semi tractor trailer and a Rock County Department of Public Works plow. At the time of the incident, the plow was clearing snow on the inside median as part of winter maintenance efforts following the morning snow event.

The semi tractor trailer struck the plow on the rear passenger side. The driver of the plow reported being uninjured but is being evaluated at a local hospital.

Traffic on I-39/90 was re-routed utilizing STH 11, CTH G and CTH BT. The anticipated length of the closure extended into the evening commute. The Wisconsin State Patrol was on scene to investigate this incident. County resources supported the incident response.

Inquiries about this incident should be directed to the Wisconsin State Patrol at 608-846-8500.

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Coalition to protect state's lakes now largest in history

A coalition with a focus on protecting Wisconsin's lakes from the impact of wake-enhanced boating that formed less than five months ago, is now the largest of its kind in Wisconsin's history. The effort, which began with five groups, has expanded to 60 Wisconsin-based groups from all over the state.

"We all understand the damage wake-enhanced activity is having on our waterways, lakes, and property values. It's time to realize this activity, which causes lake bottom sediments to be disturbed and the loss of fish habitat, is not good for the economic engine that outdoor recreation brings to Wisconsin. It's time for our legislators to understand the importance of putting into statute criteria that protect our lakes," said Dr. Fred Prehn, a well-known conservative activist.

"The organic growth of the coalition is a testament to just how many Wisconsinites care deeply about protecting our lakes and rivers. Something must be done to preserve these treasures for generations to come. The coalition now represents thousands of Wisconsinites that have made this a top priority," stated Cody Kamrowski, Executive Director, Wisconsin Wildlife Federation.

"The coalition continues to grow at an incredibly rapid pace. In the last month alone, fourteen new members have joined. As the coalition grows, each member lends their expertise to the cause. One member may focus on damage to shoreline, while another has expertise in enacting local ordinances," said Jeff Meessmann, board member of Last Wilderness Alliance, an environmental advo-

cacy group. Local governments and lake associations have also begun to address the damage done by wake-enhanced boating. This past year nearly three dozen towns have passed prohibitions on the wake-enhanced activity.

"We plan to continue this growth to show the Legislature there is an organic movement in support of managing these activities for the benefit of all Wisconsinites," stated Mike Arrowwood, Chairman, Walleyes for Tomorrow.

The continually expanding coalition represents Wisconsin fishing experts/enthusiasts, advocates for local control, lake property landowners, sailors, those concerned with spreading invasive species, and others. All are concerned about the devastating impacts of wake-enhanced boating on Wisconsin's glacial lakes and

other waterways.

- Members include:
- Lakes at Stake Wisconsin
 - Walleyes for Tomorrow
 - Headwaters Chapter Muskies Inc.
 - First WI Chapter of Muskies, Inc.
 - Muskies, Inc. Between the Lakes Chapter 20
 - Musky Fool Fly Fishing Company
 - Trout Unlimited Wisconsin Council
 - Wisconsin Lakes Association
 - Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
 - Wisconsin's Green Fire
 - Last Wilderness Alliance
 - Boulder Lake Advancement Association
 - Friends of Lake Mohawk-skin
 - Friends of the Black River
 - Friends of the Kettle Moraine State Forest
 - Friends of Vernon Marsh

- Geneva Lake Association
- Wisconsin Trappers Association
- Buffalo County Conservation Alliance
- Dodge County Sporting Conservation Alliance
- Yahara Fishing Club
- Big Cedar Lake Property Owners Association
- Great Bass Lake Improvement Association
- Boot Lake Association
- Izaak Walton League of America-Wisconsin Division
- Lake George Lakes Association
- Lake Julia Association, Inc.
- Lake Mildred and Clear Lake Property Owners Association
- 14 Mile Watershed Alliance
- FLaG Baits
- Little Sissabagama Shore Owners Association
- LoonWatch
- Lower Nashotah Lake Association
- Mondovi Conservation Club
- Boulder Lake Association
- Oneida County Clean Waters Action
- Diamond Lakers, Inc.
- Winnebagoland Conservation Alliance
- Chippewa Flowage Area Property Owners Association
- Waukesha County Con-

- Oneida County Lakes and Rivers
 - Pickerel Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District
 - River Alliance of Wisconsin
 - Rock Lake Improvement Association
 - Rutabaga Paddlesports
 - Sawyer County Lakes Forum
 - Three Lakes Waterfront Association
 - Town of Schleswig Sanitary District 1 - Cedar Lake
 - Burnett County Lakes and Rivers Association
 - Twin Lakes Preservation Association
 - Upper Midwest Bass Challenge Series
 - Vilas County Lakes and Rivers Association
 - Big Cedar Lake Property Owners Association
 - Washburn County Lakes and Rivers Association
 - Wisconsin Bass Team Trail
 - Otter Street Fishing Club
 - Stockbridge Harbor Fishing Club
 - West Shore Fishing Club
 - Southwest Chapter of Sturgeon for Tomorrow
 - Dane County Conservation League
- The coalition will be active in the upcoming Legislative Session in January 2025.

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SHOPPING NEWS

Red Cross: Help prevent blood shortages in 2025

The American Red Cross urges donors to make an appointment to give lifesaving blood or platelets in the new year to help keep the blood supply strong this winter. Type O negative blood donors and those giving platelets are especially urged to give now to keep critical blood products on the shelves for patients in need.

The start of the new year is one of the most challenging times to collect blood products as the threat of severe winter weather builds and can often lead to widespread blood drive cancellations. Additionally, an active cold and flu season may prevent people from keeping donation appointments as they rest and recover from illness. During National Blood Donor Month, the Red Cross celebrates those who generously roll up a sleeve to help save lives and urges those who are feeling well to make and keep donation appointments to help the blood supply stay on track throughout the winter.

Don't sit on the sidelines - kick off 2025 with a blood or platelet donation. To book a time to give, visit RedCrossBlood.org, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

For the sixth year, the Red Cross and the National Football League (NFL) are partnering in January for National Blood Donor Month to invite football fans and blood donors to join their lifesaving team and score big for patients in need. As a special thank-you to donors for helping address the need for blood during the critical post-holiday time, those who come to give before Jan. 26 will be automatically entered for a chance to win an exciting Super Bowl LIX giveaway. The trip includes access to day-of in-stadium pre-game activities, tickets to the official Super Bowl Experience, round-trip airfare, three-night hotel accommodations (Feb. 7 to 10), plus a \$1,000 gift card for expenses.

For full details, visit RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl. Upcoming blood donation opportunities:

Green County Albany

- Tuesday, Jan. 21: 12:30 to 5:30 p.m., Lions Building, 402 Cincinnati St.

Belleville

- Tuesday, Jan. 28: 1 to 6 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 338 S. Harrison St.

Juda

- Thursday, Jan. 16: 1 to 6 p.m., Juda High School, N2385 Spring St.

Monroe

- Monday, Jan. 27: 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., United Methodist Church, 2227 4th St.

Rock County Beloit

- Tuesday, Jan. 21: Noon to 5 p.m., Beloit Life Center, 2170 Murphy Woods Road
- Tuesday, Jan. 28: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Irontek, 635 Third St.

Evansville

- Wednesday, Jan. 22: Noon to 6 p.m., Creekside Place Community Center, 102 Maple St.

Footville

- Thursday, Jan. 23: 1 to 6 p.m., Footville Church of Christ, 117 Church St.

Janesville

- Monday, Jan. 20: 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Janesville Masonic Center, 2322 E. Milwaukee St.
- Wednesday, Jan. 22: Noon to 6 p.m., Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1550 S. Osborne Ave.
- Thursday, Jan. 23: 1 to 6 p.m., Rotary Botanical Gardens, 1455 Palmer Drive

Milton

- Friday, Jan. 17: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., St. Mary's Center, 837 Parkview

DAR scholarship accepting applications

Undergraduate and graduate students studying music can apply for the DAR Marian Anderson Legacy Scholarship through Jan. 31. Sponsored by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), the scholarship provides a one-time \$5,000 award to one student annually who is pursuing undergraduate or graduate study in music.

Marian Anderson (1897-1993) was a groundbreaking African American contralto and an inspiration for civil rights. "This scholarship pays tribute to Marian Anderson's life, and the Daughters of the American Revolution seeks to honor her legacy through today's aspiring musicians. Her legacy lives on in others who aim for excellence in musical studies, are committed to their communities, and willing to stand up for what is right," said Pamela Wright, DAR President General.

Applicants should be accepted or currently enrolled in an accredited university or college in the United States and have a concentration in music in their course of study. Music performance, composition, theory, or education are all areas that students may be specialized in to qualify for the scholarship. They should have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or the equivalent GPA on the scale used by the institution.

Applications require references sent through the application system, so students need to request their references ahead of the Jan. 31 application deadline.

In honor of Ms. Anderson's

commitment to the community throughout her life and her willingness to share her incredible talent with the world, applicants are asked to write a personal statement describing their humanitarian or volunteer contributions on behalf of their community and/or country.

To recognize the city Marian Anderson called home, preference will be given to students from the Philadelphia, Pa., metropolitan area, even if they are not pursuing music studies in the Philadelphia area.

This scholarship is not automatically renewed. However, recipients may reapply for consideration each year for up to four consecutive years.

The scholarship is supported by the Daughters of the American Revolution's Marian Anderson Legacy Fund. Learn more about the relationship between Marian Anderson and the DAR, and the organization's on-going efforts to honor her memory online at the website at www.dar.org/MarianAnderson.

One of the largest patriotic women's service organizations in the world, DAR has 190,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters across the country and several foreign countries. DAR members promote historic preservation, education and patriotism via commemorative events, scholarships and educational initiatives, citizenship programs, service to veterans, meaningful community service and more. For additional information about DAR and its relevant mission, visit www.dar.org.

State joins \$17 million multi-state settlement

The Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions (DFI), a member of the North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA), announced on Jan. 9 that Wisconsin has joined a \$17 million settlement with Edward D. Jones & Co., L.P. resulting from an investigation into the broker-dealer's supervision of customers paying front-load commissions for Class A mutual fund shares in light of later moving brokerage assets into fee-based investment advisory accounts.

The four-year investigation was led by a working group of 14 state securities regulators and looked into Edward Jones's supervision of customers moving from brokerage to advisory accounts in light of the 2016 U.S. Department of Labor Fiduciary Rule that would make investment advice to retirement accounts subject to a fiduciary standard of care.

The investigation found that Edward Jones charged front-load commissions for investments in Class A mutual fund shares in situations where the customer sold or moved the mutual fund shares sooner than originally anticipated. The states found gaps in Edward Jones's supervisory procedures in this respect.

"This settlement shows once again that state securities regulators will take decisive action to protect investors," said NASAA President and DFI Division of Securities Administrator Leslie Van Buskirk. "State securities regulators continue to lead the effort to ensure that firms always have their cus-

tomers' best interest in mind," Van Buskirk added. "I want to thank the members of the multi-state working group for their diligence and hard work."

As part of the settlement, Edward Jones will pay each of the 50 states, Washington, D.C., the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico approximately \$320,000. Wisconsin will receive an additional \$15,000 in administrative and investigatory costs. In evaluating the supervisory failures and determining the appropriate resolution, the states considered certain facts such as the positive performance of the investment advisory accounts as compared to the brokerage accounts.

"In partnership with NASAA and other state securities regulators, we will continue to protect Main Street investors and ensure that companies operating in Wisconsin follow our securities laws," said DFI Secretary Cheryll Olson-Collins. "Our agency appreciates the ongoing cooperation of Edward Jones throughout this investigation and settlement process. Firms that offer both brokerage and investment advisory services should be mindful that customers are receiving the services the customer wants at an appropriate price."

Wisconsin residents who have questions about this settlement should contact the DFI's Division of Securities by calling 608-266-2139 or emailing DFISecurities@dfi.wisconsin.gov. Residents can also visit BrokerCheck to research the background and experience of financial brokers, advisers, and firms.

A new year of story time



PHOTO COURTESY LAURA ROTH *Rock Valley Publishing*

Welcome to the new year of story time at Albertson Memorial Library in Albany. They started out the year by turning off the lights. Yep, they read winter stories using a flashlight, which showed them what was going on under the snow. Those "Shine-A-Light" books are pretty awesome. Stop in and check one out. The library plans to read another one during story time in February, this time about trains. The second book the children read was "Over and Under the Snow" about a family of cross-country skiers who discover a variety of life all around them, from insects burrowed into the leaves under the snow to a fox who runs over the snow and an owl who hovers in a tree over the snow. A sheet made a handy snowbank, and the preschoolers had tons of fun hiding over and under the snow. Then they made a snow scene.

Kandu announces executive board leadership changes

Kandu Industries Inc., a Rock County, Wis.-based non-profit organization that provides programs and services to people with disabilities and disadvantages announces important changes to its executive board leadership as the organization celebrates several notable milestones.

Attorney Joel Chappelle, who has served as Kandu's board president since 2022, will transition to the role of president emeritus, where he will continue to support the board for the remainder of his term, guaranteeing a seamless leadership transition. Under Chappelle and the executive committee's leadership, Kandu achieved a significant transformation, including:

- Leading the organization through a successful revitalization, including the establishment of a new management team.
- Navigating the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis while ensuring Kandu continued to provide vital services to the community.
- Refocusing of the organization's mission to better serve individuals with disabilities and disadvantages.
- Earning the prestigious designation of Janesville's 2023 Business of the Year.
- Consolidating Kandu's operations into a new, state-of-



Aron Bussan



Joel Chappelle



Kim Hesgard



Matt Bordwell



Michael Davis

the-art facility that will have a profound and lasting impact on the people the organization serves and stand as a symbol of dignity and respect for all people with disabilities.

Attorney Michael Davis, who served as the board's vice president, has been unanimously voted to succeed Chappelle as board president. Davis, a trusted leader who has worked closely with Chappelle and the board over the years, has played a key role in Kandu's strategic direction and success. His extensive experience and commitment to the organization make him the ideal candidate to lead Kandu into its next chapter.

In addition to Davis's promotion to board president, Aron Bussan has been voted to replace Davis as vice president. Bussan has demonstrated exceptional leadership and commitment to Kandu's mission and is poised to bring new perspectives and energy to the role.

Matt Bordwell will continue to serve as treasurer, and Kim Hesgard will remain in the role

of secretary, both ensuring the financial stability and organizational success of Kandu Industries.

"I am honored to step into the role of board president and continue Kandu's vital mission of supporting individuals with disabilities and disadvantages in our community," said Davis. "I look forward to building on the strong foundation that Joel has laid and working closely with our board, staff, and community partners to ensure Kandu's continued success and growth."

Kandu Industries is excited about the future and the continued positive impact it will have on the individuals, families and communities it serves. With a strong and experienced leadership team in place, the organization remains committed

to raising the bar for service and support for people with disabilities and disadvantages in Rock County and beyond.

For more information about Kandu Industries and its programs, please visit <https://www.kanduindustries.com>.

Kandu Industries is a 501(c)(3) organization, based in Rock Co., Wis. that provides opportunities to people with disabilities and disadvantages. For more than 60 years, these work, social, and daily activities enable Kandu clients to achieve their maximum potential and enjoy the dignity of being productive citizens. Today, Kandu impacts the lives of over 200 clients along with a staff of over 100, and partners with a number of community and governmental agencies to ensure that individual choice and personal development are nurtured in the work environment as well as in other aspects of life.

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Nursing (Continued from front page)

The BSN program has enrolled 22 students on the Rock County campus in two cohorts of 11 students since the first classes began meeting in the fall of 2023. Eleven of the students participated in Mercyhealth's Student Nursing Intern Program over the summer of 2024, at the halfway point in their program.

"It helps them continue on the educational pathway," said Icke. "It helps them gain experience in an area they thought they wanted to work, maybe confirming to them that this is where they want to be. Some students stayed on in the workforce in a lighter capacity with the school year beginning."

Nursing student Betsy Stanek participated in the nursing internship, which Mercyhealth calls the Student Nurse Intern program, or SNI, working in the emergency room. Even with five years of emergency medicine experience as an EMT with the Whitewater Fire Department, she was looking to confirm what area she might want to work in after she earns her BSN.

"The SNI program is one every nursing student should do," said Stanek. "You have an instructor in clinicals who's helping five or six students. In SNI you can help one nurse and work under their license - it makes it less terrifying."

Stanek, who has a bachelor's degree in history with a minor in business from UW-Whitewater, selected the collaborative nursing program offered on the Rock County campus because it allowed her to live at home in Whitewater, saving money so she would be able to fully focus on her studies rather than having to fit in a job. An unexpected benefit of the program was the small class sizes and the quality of the instructors.

"Heidi Rye is phenomenal," said Stanek. "She's a big part of why we've been able to succeed. She's one of the best teachers I've had in my whole undergraduate experience."

A seamless shift between campuses

Edgewood student Nick Jacobus grew up in Janesville and enrolled at UW-Whitewater at Rock County, where he earned his associate degree and served as student government president. After moving to the Whitewater campus to complete his bachelor's degree, he heard about the new nursing degree. He realized he'd already completed a good number of the general education requirements - or gen eds - needed to apply to the BSN program.

"The program is more hands-on, which I kind of like," said Jacobus, who was interested in working in public health but didn't want a job behind a desk. "We do a clinical rotation every semester. This semester I'm



UWW PHOTOS/CRAIG SCHREINER Rock Valley Publishing

From left, nursing students Sydney Thompson, Ella Rau, Aiden Brink and Juliann Russella work with medical mannequins that simulate patients. Nursing students train in care of tracheotomy patients in a new teaching lab on the UW-Whitewater at Rock County campus on Nov. 21, 2024.

doing a clinical rotation in a surgical pediatric unit, and one in their ortho/neuro unit. That means we go in, get assigned a patient, and work as the nurse's primary assistant, passing meds and helping to care for patients."

Students work about 10-and-a-half-hour shifts in their rotations, and Jacobus, who also works 12-hour shifts as a CNA at SSM Health in Janesville, feels it is going well.

"I've got three more semesters," he said. "I would like to stay in the region and get some more bedside experience in the hospital I am working at now."

Jacobus, who looks especially forward to rotations in public health at local schools or at a free clinic in Beloit, said the transition to being an Edgewood student was seamless.

"The cohorts are small and the classes are small. It's the same level of closeness as I had with the teachers with Rock. They are very personable."

An open door to an opportunity to work in healthcare

A total of 696 students were enrolled at Rock in 2023-24, a 103-student increase from the year before. More than 50 are working on their general education requirements on a path to apply to the collaborative BSN program.

Kenosha native Daijshia Brown is one of the Rock County students on a pathway to apply. Like many who struggled during the pandemic, her grades coming out of Bradford High School left her with limited options when it came to pursuing a career in health care. The first-generation student knew she wanted to live away from home and yet still be close enough to help care for her three younger sisters. Rock County's 100% admission rate was an open door - allowing her a fresh start academically and offering enrolled students the opportunity to live in the residence halls on the Whitewater campus for the same cost.

"It's been hard, to say the least. Nursing is a very hard program to be in. I've almost given up on myself multiple times," said Brown. "If I can't pass a simple math class, why would I be able

to pass a nursing class and save someone's life down the road? But I know this is something I can do. I'm going to stick to it."

In the second year of her prerequisites, Brown works as a caregiver at Aspire in Whitewater and plans on applying to the cohort that will start in the fall of 2025. She knows she may have to take classes during Winterim to get credits.

"I want to do labor and delivery nursing," said Brown. "It comes from the time when my mom had a miscarriage, and it really affected me. It hit me hard and made me realize it was what she wanted to do - be the support system for someone else when that happens."

A program reinvigorated

Kerri Wrinn, who has taught biology and related classes on the Rock County campus since 2012, can attest to the way the nursing program has reinvigorated campus - and filled up her classrooms with students preparing for a nursing or physical therapy program.

"When I began teaching at Rock we had higher enrollment, with many of our students taking classes to help prepare for a change in career," said Wrinn, who then noticed a decline in enrollment over time as demographics changed.

"I enjoyed the smaller classes because I could build stronger relationships with students, but I like that we can serve more people now and that they are excited

about the nursing program."

Wrinn says that the Rock County campus offers an especially good opportunity for students such as nontraditional students, generally defined as students aged 25 or older, to get started in a low-pressure environment, with small classes.

"We understand they are juggling kids, jobs, etc. We make it easier for them to come in as nontrads and manage all that."

In her classes, she purposefully works in confidence-building activities for her students, such as sending someone up to the board to answer a question, or having them work in groups for a lab.

"I want to get you prepared to where you are comfortable talking in front of people - at your pace and what's comfortable for you - and talking to the public in a way a lay person can understand."

After seeing the pre-med and pre-nursing courses decline so much, Wrinn says it feels pretty good to be thinking about adding classes again.

"It happened so quickly after the program was created," she said. "It's great to see."

Serving the needs of the region

The nursing program is just one of the ways the Rock County campus has been looking to serve as a critical partner in delivering educational pathways to meet the needs of the region, which



Nursing students Hayle Acker, left, and Nick Jacobus practice an exam in class on the UW-Whitewater at Rock County campus. Third-year nursing students in a joint program between UW-Whitewater and Edgewood College started their semester on Aug. 22, 2024.



Kerri Wrinn, associate professor in the College of Integrated Studies, leads Biology 285, an anatomy and physiology course required for nursing students, in Williams Hall on the UW-Whitewater at Rock County campus on Sept. 4, 2024.

includes northern Illinois.

"We've been successful in innovating and partnering, which allows us to provide students better opportunities," said Tricia Clasen, dean of the College of Integrated Studies and assistant vice chancellor.

"What hasn't changed is that strong general education foundation and our affordable pathway to a bachelor's degree. But, because we are partnering with private organizations and departments at UW-Whitewater and other universities, we are also able to provide these other opportunities."

Since 2019, Rock County has invested \$1.85 million in capital projects and operational funds to support the campus. During a visit to the campus in August 2024, Universities of Wisconsin President Jay Rothman noted that

care had been taken to keep

the facilities looking great.

"I appreciate the community's support of the institution. The Rock County campus is a success story. Our public universities are focused on access and affordability, and, as we move the needle on enrollment statewide, this campus is on a positive trajectory," Rothman said.

Rock County nurses report an average salary of \$83,720. Nationally, nursing job opportunities are expected to grow by nearly 200,000 - or 6% - in the coming decade.

For more information on the collaborative nursing BSN with Edgewood College, contact Rachel Icke, director of academic programs at the School of Nursing at Edgewood College, at rIcke@edgewood.edu or 608-663-6809.

Spreitzer

(Continued from front page)

and Outreach Director. Katie has worked for the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, the State Senate Democratic Committee, and Senate Minority Leader Jennifer Shilling. Katie lives in Madison with her husband and their two cats, Cirilla and Franklin.

Dylan Moffitt will continue to serve as the Senator's Constituent Services Director. Dylan has worked for Senator Spreitzer since 2024. Prior to working in the state legislature, Dylan worked as a management analyst for the Village of Machesney Park in Illinois. Dylan lives in Madison with his cat, Cali.

Senator Spreitzer's Capitol office is located in Room 108 South of the State Capitol. He can be reached by email at Sen. Spreitzer@legis.wisconsin.gov, by phone at 608-266-2253, on social media on X.com/SenSpreitzer and Facebook.com/SenSpreitzer, and on his website www.SenSpreitzer.com.



PHOTOS SUBMITTED Rock Valley Publishing

Pictured left to right is Rep. Clinton Anderson (AD-44), Rep. Brienne Brown (AD-43), Rep. Ann Roe (AD-45), and Senator Mark Spreitzer (SD-15).



Pictured left to right is Katie Iliff, Senator Mark Spreitzer, Eleanor (Ellie) Thorman, Dylan Moffitt, and Doug Hyant.

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Governor announces new budget proposal

Gov. Tony Evers announced on Jan. 6 he will propose requiring the Wisconsin State Legislature to allow the people of Wisconsin to put binding referenda on the ballot in Wisconsin, enabling Wisconsinites to enact statutory and constitutional changes through a majority vote at the ballot box and without the Legislature's approval. The governor's proposal, which will be included in his 2025-27 biennial budget, comes as Wisconsinites saw five statewide referenda questions in 2024 – the most in a single year in over four decades, according to a report from the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel – all of which were drafted, legislatively passed, and placed on the ballot by Republican lawmakers, largely without direct input from the people of Wisconsin.

Unlike in other states, Wisconsinites do not have the power to propose new laws or constitutional amendments through a binding ballot initiative process, which would otherwise enable the people of Wisconsin to enact policy changes through a simple statewide majority vote. In Wisconsin, only the Legislature can approve and place ballot questions on the ballot, leaving Wisconsinites little recourse when the Legislature fails to enact policies that have broad public support. Republican lawmakers have telegraphed plans to put four referenda on the ballot as soon as April this year, amending Wisconsin's constitution to address issues already addressed in various ways under existing state and federal law.

Republican lawmakers have repeatedly worked to put constitutional amendments on the ballot that Republicans drafted, and Republicans refuse to give that same power to the people of Wisconsin. And that's wrong," said Gov. Evers. "Republican lawmakers shouldn't be able to ignore the will of the people and then prevent the people from having a voice when the Legislature fails to listen. That has to change. If Republican lawmakers are going to continue to try and legislate by constitutional amendment, then they should give the people that same power and that's what I'll be asking them to do in my next budget."

Gov. Evers' budget proposal will require the Legislature to create a pathway for Wisconsinites to enshrine the will of the people into state law, including on issues and areas that have long been supported by a majority of Wisconsinites but have been repeatedly rejected by the Republican majority in the Legislature, including legalizing and regulating marijuana, ensuring access to safe and legal abortion, expanding BadgerCare, and enacting commonsense gun safety reform policies, among other critical priorities of statewide importance and support.

Over the course of his tenure, Gov. Evers has proposed legislation to expand BadgerCare, legalize and tax marijuana much like we do alcohol, restore Roe v. Wade and defend reproductive freedom, enact commonsense gun safety reform like "red flag" laws and universal background checks, expand paid family leave, and create a nonpartisan redistricting process, among other proposals aimed at addressing pressing statewide issues and challenges. Publicly released polling data has shown much of these policies are supported by a majority – and, in some cases, even a supermajority – of Wisconsin voters. Despite many of these proposals and policies having broad support from Wisconsinites across the state, Republican lawmakers have repeatedly rejected efforts to enact these policies, often outright refusing to even give such efforts consideration, public hearings, or debate.

According to the Marquette Law School Poll, there are a number of issues that a majority of Wisconsinites support that have continued to stall under the Republican legislative majority, including but not limited to:

- Over 60 percent of Wisconsinites think abortion should be legal in all or most cases;
- More than 70 percent of Wisconsinites think the state should accept federal funds to expand Medicaid;
- 86 percent of Wisconsinites – and nearly 80 percent of Republicans – believe medical marijuana should be made legal;
- Over 60 percent of Wisconsinites agree that the use of marijuana should be legal;
- Over 60 percent of Wisconsinites believe a nonpartisan commission should be responsible for drawing legislative districts, rather than the Legislature;
- 73 percent of Wisconsinites – including 62 percent of Republicans – support paid family leave;
- Over 80 percent of Wisconsinites support "red flag" laws

that allow a judge to order an individual to refrain from possessing a firearm if they find the individual to be a threat to themselves or others; and

• Nearly 80 percent of Wisconsinites support universal mandatory background checks on people making gun purchases, including at gun shows or through private sales.

However, unlike more than 20 other states in the United States, including Michigan, Illinois, and Ohio, Wisconsin's current laws do not allow voters to change state law by referendum, and voters cannot introduce referenda or initiatives to be voted on by the people of Wisconsin. According to the Legislative Reference Bureau, "Unlike a number of other states, Wisconsin does not have any statewide initiative process that would allow electors to propose new state laws or constitutional amendments through a petition and to compel a referendum vote."

The governor's proposal would require the Legislature to create a statewide binding referendum process through a constitutional amendment, allowing voters to file petitions with the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) to hold a vote on proposed state laws and constitutional amendments or to repeal current state law. If a sufficient number of signatures by qualified electors are validated by WEC, a vote would be held at the next general election at least 120 days after the petition is filed. Under the proposal, a simple majority vote is required to decide the referendum.

Gov. Evers previously proposed creating a statewide binding referendum process in

2022 when he called a special session of the Legislature to create a pathway for Wisconsinites to repeal Wisconsin's 1849-era criminal abortion ban in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. The special session call also came as U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wisconsin) erroneously suggested Wisconsin voters could challenge the state's 1800s-era criminal abortion ban directly through a statewide referendum. Republicans gavelled in and out of the governor's special session in a matter of seconds without debate, failing to even consider or take up the opportunity for Wisconsinites to place their own binding referenda on the ballot.

Republicans in the Legislature have a habit of gaveling in and out of Gov. Evers' special sessions, often without debate, rather than addressing the challenges that are facing Wisconsinites and passing bills that a majority of Wisconsinites support, including:

- In October 2019, the governor called a special session to address gun violence in the state of Wisconsin and proposed two critical proposals that 80 percent of Wisconsinites support. Republicans refused to take up the bills;
- In February 2020, Gov. Evers called a special session to restore two-thirds funding for K-12 education, including \$130 million in property tax relief through equalization aid. Both the Wisconsin State Senate and Wisconsin State Assembly adjourned the governor's special session, refusing to consider the governor's special session call.

• In May 2021, the governor called a special session to expand BadgerCare, which would make affordable health-care coverage available to an additional 90,000 Wisconsin residents, a proposal supported by over 70 percent of Wisconsinites. Republicans gavelled in and out of the session in seconds without any deliberation;

• In July 2021, Gov. Evers called a special session to invest more than \$400 million in Wisconsin's kids and schools. Republicans rejected this effort.

• In June 2022, in the wake of the draft U.S. Supreme Court opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, the governor called a special session to take up legislation to repeal Wisconsin's outdated, Civil War-era 1849 statute. Over 60 percent of Wisconsinites opposed the overturning of Roe and think abortion should be legal in all or most cases. Republicans rejected the governor's proposal;

• As noted above, also in 2022, Gov. Evers again called a special session to create a pathway for Wisconsinites to repeal Wisconsin's 1849-era criminal abortion ban through statewide binding referendum; and

• In August 2023, the governor called a special session of the Legislature to complete their work on the 2023-25 biennial budget and pass a meaningful, comprehensive plan to address the state's longstanding, generational workforce challenges. The governor's plan included expanding paid family leave, which 73 percent of Wisconsinites – including 62 percent of Republicans – support. Republicans rejected the governor's proposal.



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LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

POOL & REC DIRECTOR CITY OF BRODHEAD

The position requires the ability to manage the recreation and pool functions, including the development of recreation programs, operational, and developmental phases of pool, recreation areas and facilities. This position offers a wage which is commensurate with experience and qualifications, plus an excellent fringe benefit package.

Preferred qualifications include an Associate's degree in physical education, recreation, or related fields. Knowledge of pool maintenance, ability to obtain pool & spa operators certification, CPR/First Aid certified, recreational knowledge to develop and maintain programs and develop staff.

For a job description visit: http://www.cityofbrodheadwi.us/employment_opportunities/index.php

To apply send a cover letter, resume, salary requirements, and three professional references by

January 17, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. to: City Clerk; City of Brodhead, 1111 W. 2nd Ave., Brodhead, Wisconsin 53520 or email to cityclerk@cityofbrodheadwi.us.

The Independent Register
12/25/2024, 1/1, 1/8, 1/15/2025
WNAXLP 465988

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF WJZ CLEANING, LLC AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING NOTICE OF CLAIM

Notice to any and all Creditors of WJZ Cleaning, LLC:

You are hereby notified that WJZ Cleaning, LLC has been dissolved, effective December 3, 2024.

It is hereby requested that any and all persons with a claim, known or unknown, against WJZ Cleaning, LLC or its members, agents, or employees, in their capacities as such, present said claim in accordance with this published notice.

To file a notice of a claim against WJZ Cleaning, LLC you must send the following written information to the address below, no later 120 days following the first date of this publication:

1. A statement of the amount of your claim;
2. The legal name of the entity asserting the claim;
3. Identification or brief description of the agreement or other circumstances under which the claim arose; and,
4. Any other information you believe may be useful to verify the nature and amount of the claim, including copies of any relevant documents.

Please send all of the above information to:

Ms. Pamela J. Burke
c/o Attorney Walter E. Shannon
Shannon Law Office, LLC
104 W. Main St.
Evansville, WI 53536

PLEASE NOTE: A claim against the dissolved limited liability company or its members, agents, or employees, is barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is brought within two

meeting at 7:59 p.m.
Motion carried, 6-0.

Date: 12-11-24 \$100 Bill List

Vendor Name	Check Amount
AIRGAS USA, LLC	196.52
BADGER SPORTING GOODS	450.00
JW PEPPER & SON INC	137.93
MENARDS - JANESVILLE	117.00
NEOLA, INC.	1,375.00
OFFICE PRO	7,097.85
RBS ACTIVEWEAR	516.33
SCHOOL SPECIALTY	1,577.47
SYMMETRY ENERGY SOLUTIONS, LLC	4,943.02
BENCHMARK EDUCATION COMPANY	142,201.50
BRODHEAD WATER & LIGHT COMM	10,290.91
CITY OF BRODHEAD SEWER DEPT	2,077.64
CPI	200.00
DYNAMIC FITNESS & STRENGTH	117.00
INSIGHT FS	1,364.20
MARCELLAS CERAMICS	310.00
MONROE GLASS COMPANY INC	635.16
PIGGLY WIGGLY	457.43
RHYME BUSINESS PRODUCTS LLC	2,386.77
ROCK VALLEY PUBLISHING LLC	740.65
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BLOIT	1,750.00
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	196.52
SOILS & ENGINEERING SERVICE INC	7,460.00
SSM HEALTH MEDICAL GROUP	11,082.50
VISA	110.00
WASBO	440.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CORPORATION	162.80
ROBERT W BAIRD & CO	5,200.00
BADGER SPORTING GOODS	148.00
CDW GOVERNMENT INC	335.46
CESA #3	780.00
MATTHYS, JAMES G	122.38
MIDAMERICA	50,500.55
TOMPSON, RACHEL L	120.60
VOIGT MUSIC CENTER	1,192.29
WI DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION	500.00
CESA 2/DCTS	5,394.40
DELL MARKETING L.P.	9,570.00
INSIGHT FS	751.30
LEIFKER, MARNIE J	120.60
SSM HEALTH - MONROE CLINIC MEDICAL GROUP	6,961.69
UPS	395.20
U.S. CELLULAR	123.72
FOLLETT CONTENT SOLUTIONS LLC	2,651.24
GORDON FOOD SERVICE INC	12,347.25
KOBUSSEN BUSES LTD	60,611.57
KOMPAS CARE	496.42
NASCO	654.87
NOVY, DAVID A	359.12
PAN-O-GOLD BAKING CO	407.70
RENNING, LEWIS & LACY, S.C.	102.50
SYSCO FOOD SERVICES OF BARABOO	12,439.60
VOIGT MUSIC CENTER	311.20
CESA 2/DCTS	2,697.20
GASSER TRUE VALUE HARDWARE	268.97
GOTO TECHNOLOGIES USA, INC.	1,350.30
HOBART SERVICE/ITW FOOD EQUIP	1,215.84
MERCY EMS TRAINING CENTER-JVL	4,268.00
ORFORDVILLE LUMBER	202.96
PEPSI-COLA	475.66
RHYME BUSINESS PRODUCTS LLC	2,847.43
SSM HEALTH - MONROE CLINIC MEDICAL GROUP	5,687.17
BADGER SPORTING GOODS	107.00
CARR, SARA E	146.86
KAMMERER, BRIAN J	110.00
PIGGLY WIGGLY	390.31
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS	1,917.65
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	349.69
BADGER SPORTING GOODS	125.00
BIG FOOT HIGH SCHOOL	520.00
BSN SPORTS, LLC	198.00
DEPLER WOOD SUPPLY	585.00
HEARTLAND GRAPHICS	617.00
JURT, CHRISTOPHER C	243.69
PEPSI-COLA	421.68
PIGGLY WIGGLY	132.48
RIESTER, JASON M	300.00
RITE BITE	1,252.00
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	344.84
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	165.45
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	322.52
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	192.22
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	307.68
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	879.65
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	199.86
WISCONSIN ASSOC OF FHA	305.00
EAST TROY HIGH SCHOOL	220.00
GERBE, TRENMT W	195.00
JANESVILLE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER	330.00
MONROE THEATRE GUILD	300.00
OVERTURE CNTER	1,350.00
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	1,410.00
WISCONSIN ASSOC OF FFA	305.00

The Independent Register
1/15/2025
WNAXLP 466725

(2) years after the first publication date of this notice. If your claim is so barred, you will have no further rights to assert or otherwise take action with respect to your claim, against WJZ Cleaning, LLC or its members, agents or employees.

If you have any questions, please contact Attorney Walter E. Shannon, Shannon Law Office, (608) 882-5944.

/s/ Pamela J. Burke,
Personal Representative
Wendy J. Zweifel Estate,
Member

The Independent Register
1/8, 1/15, 1/22/2025
WNAXLP 466437

VILLAGE OF ORFORDVILLE

Notice of Public Hearing

The Planning Commission of the Village of Orfordville will meet on Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. to hear the following requests. Applicant Zach Knutson of Mill Valley Subdivision is requesting a land division for Lot 40 to separate the lot into two lots to build two single family homes. The second applicant is Jason Nehls of LRN Properties

who is requesting to rezone 416 E. Beloit Street from C-1 Commercial use to R-1 Single Family Residential use. The Planning Commission will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 23, 2025 and then make a recommendation to the Village Board on Monday, January 27, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., both meetings will be held in the Main Board Room at the Village Hall. Adjoining landowners and landowners within 100 feet of the above mentioned properties are being notified separately by mail.

Sherri Waega
Village Clerk

The Independent Register
1/15, 1/22/2025
WNAXLP 466516

STATE OF WISCONSIN GREEN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Terry Sedbrook
N3740 Park Rd.
Brodhead, WI 53520

And,
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Ave.
N.W. Ste. N2625
c/o Office of Solicitor
Washington, DC 20210
Subrogated Plaintiff,

-vs-

Amanda Sperry
705 E. 5th Ave.
Brodhead, WI 53520

And,
ABC Insurance Corp.

Personal Injury - Other #30107
Amount claimed is
greater than \$5,000.

SUMMONS

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

To each person named above as a defendant:

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The complaint, which is attached, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within (45) days after receiving this summons, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is 2841 6th Street, Monroe, WI 53566 and to Paul Benson, plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 14 N. Parker Dr., Suite 110, Janesville, WI 53545. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within (45) days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the complaint. A judgment by law is enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future and also may be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

DATED December 19, 2024

Paul Benson Law Firm
Attorney for Plaintiff
Terry Sedbrook
/s/ Paul Benson
Paul M. Benson
Wis. State Bar No. 1106118
14 N. Parker Dr. Ste. 110
Janesville, WI 53545
608-352-6800
pmb@paulbensonlawfirm.com
The Independent Register
1/15, 1/22, 1/29/2025
WNAXLP 466726

NOTICE OF VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

Green County: City of Brodhead, Town of Decatur, Town of Spring Grove, Town of Albany, Village of Albany
Rock County: City of Brodhead, Town of Avon, Town of Spring Valley, Town of Magnolia

Any qualified elector who is unable or unwilling to appear at the polling place on Election Day may submit a request to vote an absentee ballot to their municipal clerk. A qualified elector is any U.S. citizen who:

- will be 18 years of age or older on Election Day.
- has resided in the ward or

municipality where they wish to vote for at least 28 consecutive days before the election.

The elector must also be registered to vote to receive an absentee ballot. Proof of identification must be provided before an absentee ballot may be issued*.

Making application to receive an absentee ballot by mail

Contact your municipal clerk and request that an application for an absentee ballot be sent to you for the primary or election or both. You may make written application to your municipal clerk for an absentee ballot by mail, by fax, by email or at MyVote.wi.gov. Or you may apply in person at the clerk's office during the In-Person Absentee Voting period listed below. Your written request must include:

1. your voting address within the municipality where you wish to vote
2. the address where the absentee ballot should be sent, if different from the address above
3. your signature
4. a copy of your photo identification*

The deadline for making application to receive an absentee ballot by mail is:
5:00 p.m. on the fifth day before the election, Thursday, February 13, 2025.

*Voters who are indefinitely confined due to age, illness, infirmity, or disability may not be required to provide photo ID. If this applies to you, contact the municipal clerk regarding deadlines for requesting and submitting an absentee ballot.

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

Voting an absentee ballot in person

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

- City of Brodhead, Kristin Covert, 1111 W 2nd Ave, PO Box 168, Brodhead, WI 53520 (608)897-4018, **9:00 am – 3:30 pm By Appointment**
- Town of Albany, Deb Cline, N6065 Cty Rd E, Albany, WI 53502 (608)558-4787, **By Appointment**
- Town of Spring Grove, Arlinda Faessler, N2475 Cty Road GG, Brodhead, WI 53520 (608)897-4643, **By Appointment**
- Town of Decatur, Emma Brugger, 1408 14th St, PO Box 333, Brodhead, WI 53520 (608)897-4965, **Wednesdays 9:00 am – 1:00 pm or By Appointment Only**
- Village of Albany, Michelle Brewer, 206 North Water Street, Albany, WI 53502 (608)862-3240, **8:00 am – 4:00 pm**
- Town of Avon, Stephanie Schwartzlow, 15444 W Skinner Rd, Brodhead, WI 53520 (608)921-3656, **By Appointment**
- Town of Magnolia, Graceann Toberman, 13343 W Cty Rd B, Brodhead, WI 53520 (608)751-6743, **By Appointment**
- Town of Spring Valley, Dela Ends, 17310 Footville Brodhead Rd, Brodhead, WI 53520 (608)897-4288, **By Appointment**

The first day to vote an absentee ballot in the clerk's office is:
Tuesday, February 4, 2025

The last day to vote an absentee ballot in the clerk's office is:
Friday, February 14, 2025 at 5:00 pm

(Note: This may be no later than the Sunday before the election.)

No in-person absentee voting may occur on the day before the election. The municipal clerk will deliver voted ballots returned on or before Election Day to the proper polling place or counting location before the polls close on February 18, 2025. Any ballots received after the polls close will not be counted.

The Independent Register
1/15/2025
WNAXLP 466751

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

BRODHEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT District Office Board Room

Wednesday, December 11, 2024
Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Board President Mike Krupke at 7:00 p.m. The meeting agenda was published in the Wednesday, December 4, 2024 edition of the Independent Register.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Mike Krupke, Michael Oellerich, Al Schneider, Jodi Kail, Jenny Flory, and Don Buchanan (virtually)
Absent: Elizabeth Kempel

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Al Schneider, second by Jenny Flory, to approve the agenda.
Motion carried, 6-0.

INFORMATION REPORTS

The Administrative Team presented information reports on their respective buildings and departments.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No one was present to give public comment.

AGENDA ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION ITEM

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- a. Regular Meeting: November 13, 2024
- b. Special Referendum Meeting: November 20, 2024
- c. Special Referendum Meeting: December 2, 2024

2. APPROVAL OF BILLS

3. ACCEPT DONATION(S)

- a. \$400.00 monetary donation from the American Legion to the Brodhead Backpack Program
- b. \$500.00 monetary donation from Diane Anderson to the Brodhead Backpack Program

4. RESIGNATION(S)

- None at this time.

5. EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATION(S)

- a. Tommy Meier, Head Varsity Golf Coach

6. VOLUNTEER RECOMMENDATION(S)

- None at this time.

Motion by Michael Oellerich, second by Al Schneider, to approve the consent agenda items as presented.
Motion carried, 6-0.

STATE REPORT CARD

PRESENTATION

PRESENTATION ITEM

District Administrator Novy and the administrative team presented information on the 2023-24 State Report Card and summarized the District's and each building's performance.

APPROVAL OF HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

OF STUDIES FOR 2025-26

ACTION ITEM

Motion by Michael Oellerich, second by Al Schneider, to approve the 2025-26 High School Program of Studies as presented.
Motion carried, 6-0.

REFERENDUM UPDATE

DISCUSSION ITEM

District Administrator Novy presented information and the Board had a discussion on a potential operational Referendum for the April 2025 election following the two public Referendum meetings. No action was taken.

FUTURE AGENDA [January 8, 2025]

- Approval of the Minutes
- Approval of Bills
- Accept Donation(s)
- Resignation(s)
- Employment Recommendation(s)
- Volunteer Recommendation(s)
- High School Presentation
- Safety Drill Reports
- Audit Report
- Review WASB Resolutions
- Referendum Update
- Consideration of a Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Question of the Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit for Non-Recurring Purposes
- Consider Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit For Non-Recurring Purposes
- Consideration of Funding Source for the JV Softball Field
- Approval of Policy Updates
- Approval of Master Calendar for 2025-2026
- High School Baseball Scoreboard Update

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION ITEM

Motion by Michael Oellerich, second by Jodi Kail, to adjourn the

Classifieds

AD DEADLINE:
Friday
at 4 pm

SERVING NORTHERN ILLINOIS AND SOUTHERN WISCONSIN

employment



for sale



rentals & real estate



automotive



services offered



help wanted

PARKS, POOL & REC DEPT. SUMMER APPLICATIONS

Applications will be available at the Brodhead Parks, Pool & Recreation Department beginning Thursday, Jan. 2 for summer 2025 employment.

- **14 years old, freshman in high school:** Basket window attendant, concessions cashier, playground instructor, and umpiring.
- **15 years old:** Lifeguarding.
- **16 years old:** Park maintenance.

Applicants must qualify for a work permit (14 years of age and in high school) to be considered. Applications are available at the Brodhead Pool & Recreation Department or on the City of Brodhead website (www.cityofbrodheadwi.us) and are due to the Pool & Recreation Director by Friday, Feb. 28. If you have any questions, please call the Brodhead Pool & Recreation Department at 608-897-2159.

466267

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Rock Valley Publishing is looking for a Part-Time Advertising Sales Executive. Approximately 20 hours per week.

We publish newspapers, shoppers, and niche publications throughout the stateline. You have the opportunity to sell into all Rock Valley Publishing. L.L.C. publications, making your paycheck much larger!

For immediate consideration send resume/job history to:
Vicki Vanderwerff, Director of Advertising
Email: vicki@southernlakesnewspapers.com
Fax: (262) 725-6844

444841

transportation

Automobiles

2001 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE Blk on Brn, 90K miles, new tires, new brakes, mechanically sound throughout, minor scratches on body, leather seats, V-6 engine, premium sound system and ice-cold A/C and hot heat. \$6000. call 262-496-5739.

Campers and RVs

2016 FLEETWOOD TERRA 34B MOTOR HOME 35' 27,000 Miles 3 Slideouts 2 New WI-FI TV's 5.5k Generator. \$79,000 262-206-4164.

Sports/Classic Cars

1952 CHEVY PICKUP Solid Nevada truck, runs great. \$19,750. (262) 949-6997.

FIND BARGAINS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆



FIND YOUR NEXT HOME IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

real estate

FARMS FOR SALE Peoples Company

WHITESIDE COUNTY, IL
NEW LISTING - 122 a. M/L, 124.3 PI, located west of Morrison, IL.
NEW LISTING - 507.34 a., level, 472.11 tillable, 124.1 PI, many recent improvements. On Hwy. 30 west of Morrison, IL.

ALAN MCNEIL - 563-321-1125 IA LIC S64136000
DOUGLAS YEGGE - 563-320-9900 IA LIC B14481000

700 6th Ave., DeWitt, IA 52742

Peoplescompany.com

466424

VAN DRIVERS NEEDED.

Must be hard working, reliable and customer service oriented individuals that can provide world-class service experience in a positive and compassionate manner. Drivers must demonstrate a high level of resourcefulness and flexibility. Must be professional with excellent communication skills. Contact ryanshmaltz@gmail.com for more details.

466677



For details on placing your Help Wanted ad in our Classified Section
Call 608-897-2193

business & service

Home Improvement

JACK OF ALL TRADES.US Snow removal, sidewalks, driveways, ice dams, roof snow raking - 15 miles from Brodhead. Handyman anywhere. 608-897-2410

Misc Services

CONSUMER CELLULAR - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-833-518-2155

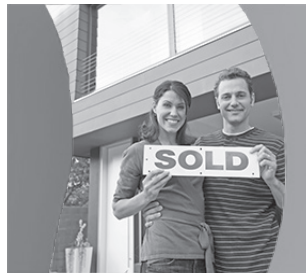
PREPARE FOR POWER outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-888-355-6955 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

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

Auction Deadline is Noon Friday!

Contact Rhonda at rmarshall@rvpublishing.com for information on advertising.



Time To Sell Your Home?

Call 608-897-2193 for details on placing an ad

422792

for sale

Announcements

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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.

Firewood / Fuel

OAK FIRE WOOD Three big trees are cut down. All wood for \$99.00. Call 608-862-3731

Misc. For Sale

DONATE YOUR CAR, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-888-425-2108 today!

Agriculture

ROUND ALFALFA & GRASS Excellent quality round alfalfa & grass hay bales for sale, stored inside, \$40 each. 815-291-2382 or 815-291-2381.

Pets

AKC LAB Puppies-\$900. 608-445-4107 Facebook: Two Rivers Retrievers Kennel. Amazing hunting and house dogs with strong pedigrees.

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

The Wheel Deal

Place your car, truck, motorcycle, boat or RV for one price and it runs for up to 16 weeks.

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PRIVATE PARTY ONLY.

Ad must be prepaid. Deadlines vary.

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Are you selling a single item for
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Private Party Only
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Write your ad below, One Word Per Box, be sure to include your price

Ads will not be accepted without the following information. Only one free ad per month.

YOUR NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

932503

College news

Janesville student named to Dean's List at Miami University

Haley Leonhard was named to the Dean's list at Miami University for the 2024 fall semester.

Miami University students who are ranked in the top twenty percent of undergraduate students within their division for the fall semester 2024 have been named to the Dean's list recognizing academic performance.

Congratulations to Leonhard from Janesville, Wis., for this academic achievement.

Nationally recognized as one of the most outstanding undergraduate institutions, Miami University is a public university located in Oxford, Ohio. With a student body of over 22,600 undergraduates and 2,200 graduate students,

Miami effectively combines a wide range of strong academic programs with faculty who love to teach and the personal attention ordinarily found only at much smaller institutions.

Established in 1809, Miami University is consistently ranked among the top 50 national public universities by the U.S. News and World Report for providing students with an Ivy League-quality education at a public school price. Located in quintessential college town Oxford, Ohio—with regional campuses in Hamilton and Middletown, a learning center in West Chester, and a European study center in Luxembourg—Miami serves more than 22,600 undergraduates across more than 100 areas of study, and more than 2,200 graduate students

through 78 master's and doctoral degree programs. At this comprehensive research university, students engage and conduct research with premiere teacher-scholars. Miami adds \$2.3 billion each year to Ohio's economy through innovative partnerships and job creation. Miami is an NCAA Division I school, serving more than 500 student-athletes across 19 varsity sports. For more information, visit MiamiOH.edu.

Orfordville student named to Fall 2024 Dean's List

Jenna Hume of Orfordville, Wis., has been named to Dickinson State University's Dean's List for the 2024 fall semester.

At the end of each regular semester, Dickinson State rec-

ognizes those students named to the Dean's List. Eligible students must be enrolled full-time and must earn a 3.5 GPA or higher.

The University's mission is to provide high-quality accessible programs, promote excellence in teaching and learning, support scholarly and creative activities, and to provide services relevant to the economy, health and quality of life for the citizens of North Dakota.

Janesville student graduated from Wisconsin Lutheran

Daniel Deltgen, of Janesville, graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. Daniel is a graduate of Joseph A. Craig High School.

Wisconsin Lutheran College (WLC) is an independent, residential, nationally ranked Christian college in Milwaukee that serves nearly 1,100 undergraduate and graduate students. The college, which prepares students for lives of Christian leadership, is recognized for its academic excellence and superior student experience. Learn more at wlc.edu.

Beloit student makes the Dean's List at McKendree University

Congratulations to Nikos Xydakis of Beloit, Wis., who was named to the McKendree University fall 2024 semester Dean's List for earning a grade point average of 3.60 or higher.

Founded in 1828, McKendree University's historic Lebanon, Ill., campus is 25 miles from St. Louis, Mo. McKendree also offers degree

programs online and is one of U.S. News' "Best Regional Universities," "Best Value Schools" and "Best Colleges for Veterans" in the Midwest.

Beloit student named to Dean's Honor List at Cedarville University

Students at Cedarville University have been named to the Dean's Honor List for the Fall 2024 semester. This recognition requires the student to obtain a 3.75 GPA or higher for the semester and carry a minimum of 12 credit hours.

Cedarville University, a Baptist institution in southwest Ohio, offers undergraduate and graduate residential and online programs across arts, sciences, and professional fields. With 6,384 students, it ranks among Ohio's largest private universities and is recognized by the Wall Street Journal as being among the nation's top three evangelical universities. Cedarville is also known for its vibrant Christian community, challenging academics, and high graduation and retention rates. Learn more at cedarville.edu.

• Bryn Marshall of Beloit

Monroe student named to Elmhurst University's Fall 2024 Dean's List

Alyssa Roelli, of Monroe, Wis., was among more than 1,000 students named to Elmhurst University's Fall 2024 Dean's List.

The Dean's List is composed of students who during the term concerned, attained a grade-point average of 3.75 or higher (out of a possible 4.00).

Elmhurst University is a leading four-year institution of higher education that seamlessly blends liberal learning

and professional preparation to help students reach their full potential. Founded in 1871, Elmhurst now offers more than 70 undergraduate programs of study, more than 20 graduate and certificate programs in flexible formats, and the Elmhurst Learning and Success Academy for young adults with differing abilities. Elmhurst University is among the top-ranked colleges and universities in the Midwest, according to U.S. News and World Report.

Janesville student named to Dean's List at Olivet Nazarene University

Leo Burke of Janesville, Wis., was named to the dean's list at Olivet Nazarene University during the recently completed spring 2024 semester. To qualify for inclusion on the dean's list, a student must have been enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student and must have attained a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher on a 4.00 grading scale.

Olivet Nazarene University is an accredited Christian, liberal arts university offering more than 140 areas of undergraduate and graduate study, including the Doctor of Education in ethical leadership. Olivet's 275-acre park-like main campus is in Bourbonnais, Illinois, 45 miles south of Chicago. Additionally, Olivet offers Graduate and Continuing Studies via online education. From Oxford to Tokyo, hundreds of Olivet students also experience the global classroom each year through study abroad opportunities, internships and worldwide mission trips.

Celebrating 25 years of service before retirement

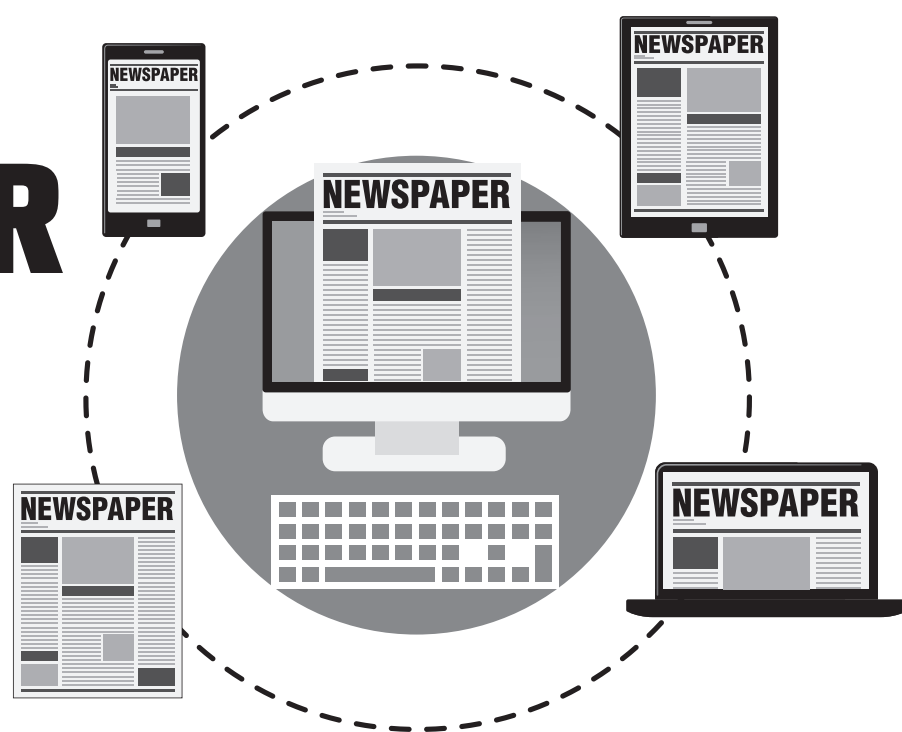


On Dec. 20, administrative professional Sandy Hill celebrated her retirement from the Rock County Sheriff's Office after 25 years. Sandy most recently provided clerical support for the detective bureau. The RCSO appreciates her dedicated service and wishes her a wonderful retirement. In honor of her retirement, Sandy requested ugly Christmas sweaters; the detectives were happy to oblige.

ROCK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
FACEBOOK PHOTO
Rock Valley Publishing

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