

Mondovi Herald-News



Serving Buffalo County for 144 Years

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Mondovi community pulls together, provides supports in challenging times

by Beth Kraft

While the threat of the coronavirus has closed schools and many businesses, canceled events, and discouraged people from venturing outside their homes except for essential purposes, glimmers of life and hope in Mondovi are present in many places—some of them unexpected.

There are the colorful paper hearts, patriotic themes and messages of support on the windows of area homes and businesses. An Easter Bunny rode around town on horseback looking to make people smile. And a parade of fire trucks and other vehicles participated in a parade past American Lutheran Communities in honor of the 100th birthday of a World War II veteran.

True to its small-town roots, individuals and organizations in Mondovi are pulling together in the face of challenging times and the obstacles presented by the COVID-19 viral pandemic, working together to support one another by providing outreach and resources.

At the forefront locally are the Mondovi Business Association and the Mondovi Lions Club. The organizations have put their heads together to brainstorm ways to support the local community and keep people's spirits up.

MBA president Tessa Harmon said the greatest

need for businesses that are fully-closed right now is, of course, money, so the organizations have worked to creatively support Mondovi's retail shops.

The MBA ran a door decorating contest last week, a fun event conducted in place of the MBA's annual Easter Egg Hunt, which had to be canceled.

Striving to support a "shop local" mindset, the MBA and the Lions Club together purchased gift certificates from local businesses to offer up as prizes for the contest, which netted 20 participants who will each receive a \$10 gift certificate.

Many other residents and businesses have also gotten in on the window/door decorating fun, creating cheerful images to brighten the days of passersby and perhaps provide an artistic outlet for home-bound boredom.

In addition to the colorful hearts and other artwork that adorn the windows of Mondovi's American Lutheran Communities, groups pulled together on Monday, April 13, to celebrate the 100th birthday of Vilas Hovey, a Gilmanston American Legion member believed to be the area's last living WWII veteran.

Typically ALC would host a birthday bash with family and friends for a resident hitting the century mark, but nursing homes are closed off to visitors while the pandemic

continues. Instead, a procession of MFD fire trucks and vehicles of well-wishers, including local veterans, wound past ALC to wave to Hovey—safely wishing him a happy 100th.

Also looking to bring joy to local residents was Nick Pelke, a well-known local



The Easter Bunny made an appearance in Mondovi on Saturday, April 11, taking off from the Buffalo County Fairgrounds on horseback. In an effort to make up for the cancellation of the city's annual Easter Egg Hunt, Nick Pelke donned an Easter Bunny costume and made the rounds on his horse.



A large group of Mondovi residents and businesses participated in an MBA-sponsored door decorating contest last week. Positive entries—many featuring messages with a "Small Town Strong" theme—can still be seen around town, like this one at Midtown Building Supply on E. Main St.



A home on Highland Ave. featured a patriotic window display and a cheery chalk message on the front steps.

'It's a significant hit' — Local care provider faces another rate cut from MCO

by Beth Kraft

Frustrations with forced financial realities continue for many who own and operate group homes and community based residential facilities (CBRFs) for people with varying degrees and combinations of cognitive, physical and mental health disabilities.

Mary Jo LaBair, who is entering her 35th year as owner/operator of Garlick's CBRF in Mondovi, says a recent rate cut handed down by Inclusa, a managed care organization (MCO) affecting half of her residents just doesn't add up.

As of April 1, room and board rate cuts were handed down by Inclusa for 10 residents, reducing the reimbursement rate to LaBair in some cases to just \$16 per day. That equates to about \$480 per month for those residents to cover a room, furniture, utilities and meals. Rent alone for most apartments in Mondovi starts at \$500.

The worst part, Garlick's administrators say, is there was no opportunity to negotiate with Inclusa on the new rate.

"You accept the new rate or you get nothing," said Sarah Odegard, Program Director. "There was no discussion."

For some residents the room and board rate was slashed by as much as \$7 per day.

"We're not talking 10 cents," Odegard added, "so it's a significant hit."

And if Garlick's didn't agree to the new rates via a new authorization for each resident, "then you get zero," LaBair said.

Inclusa was the only MCO to announce a rate cut, she added.

The cuts to room and board are on top of struggles Garlick's and other CBRF facilities have had with MCOs over care and supervision rates, which have been stagnant or declining for many care facilities—forcing some to close their doors.

Two years ago, nearly 50 owners, operators and employees from care facilities all across northwest Wisconsin convened in Mondovi to vent their frustrations and brainstorm potential solutions to their shared financial crisis. They have since continued to communicate as a group with about 10-15 "very active" members, LaBair said.

Inclusa's recent room and board rate cut prompted even more chatter from other owner/operators who have been following along on the email chain.

Some takeaways from their recent conversations indicate the situation hasn't improved much for anyone. Primarily, the average cost of living continues to increase while room and board and supervision rates are down.

"We have not had a raise in eight years," LaBair said of herself and her administrative staff. "My wage is pathetic."

In fact, it took the release of DHS Direct Care Resource funding last year to finally get some of her care workers up over \$10 per hour. Some of her 35 CNAs work a second job, and some still require assistance from the food pantry to make ends meet.

"That's so wrong," LaBair said. "You can go work at McDonald's for a better wage than a group home can provide."

The low wage her business can afford to pay care workers

See Garlick's, page 3



A facility on N. Eau Claire St. in Mondovi is one of seven area group homes and CBRFs operated by Garlick's. Owner Mary Jo LaBair says another round of rate cuts handed down by Inclusa on April 1 will make it difficult for the business to make ends meet.

Local election results trickling in

by Beth Kraft

A disjointed lead-up to Wisconsin's spring election on April 7 featured lawsuits, a last-ditch attempt by Gov. Tony Evers to postpone the election in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, and limited polling places in larger cities—all laced with political undertones in what made for an interest-

ing Tuesday for the history books.

Those who opted to skip the polling place had until Monday, April 13, to return absentee ballots to their municipal clerks. A court order extended the time frame voters had to return absentee ballots to 4 p.m. Monday, after which clerks could begin to tabulate and report results.

Due to uncertainty over when the final figures would become available with respect to newspaper deadlines, the full slate of local election results will appear in next week's (April 23) newspaper.

However, one of the highlights on the local ballot was the Eleva-Strum School District's operational referendum, which was reported

a success with voters passing the measure 559-491. Referendum passage gives the district the OK to exceed revenue caps by \$575,000 per year for the next three years, beginning with the 2020-21 school year.

Please see next week's *Mondovi Herald* for the results from all county, municipal and school board races.

Fourth local COVID-19 case
See pg. 2

Branger receives DAR honor
See pg. 5

GHS boys basketball players recognized
See pg. 8

Community

Cont'd from front

rodeo competitor who donned an Easter Bunny costume and rode his horse around Mondovi's residential districts on Saturday, April 11. Word spread fast on that sunny, warm day—one day before winter crept back in with a vengeance with a wet, heavy Easter snow storm. Residents on foot of all ages were out in force, hoping to catch a glimpse of the Bunny and his horse as they trotted around town.

Pelke said he got the idea from watching a video posted online, but figured he couldn't get an Easter Bunny costume on short notice. But his mom came through, Pelke said, tracking one down, so he held

up his end of the bargain.

Waving to youths and wishing everyone a Happy Easter was something positive he could do to make people smile, Pelke said.

Patrons at essential businesses around the city may have noticed another key effort by the MBA that both supports local businesses and helps protect public health.

Harmon explains the MBA picked up the cost of one month's rental of hand sanitizer stations and sanitizer for 15 businesses in Mondovi, amounting to a total of 20 of the portable hand sanitizer units obtained from Jul's Johns and Drop Zone.

They opted to post the

hand sanitizer stations at MBA-member businesses deemed essential, Harmon said, including Hansen's IGA, the Mondovi Pharmacy, and Countryside Co-op as well as local hardware stores, auto repair shops, and restaurants/bars serving takeout.

"We're trying to find other ways to help our businesses," said Harmon.

The organization is also working to provide information for small business help, including how to sign up for SBA loans, to its members.

Information on how to make cloth face masks has also circulated with a designated local drop-off point at CCF Bank (203 E Main St.)

for delivery to Mayo Clinic. Many individuals and groups have hit the sewing machines to craft the cotton masks, which can be washed and reused.

Other community supports provided by the Lions Club include offering to pick up groceries or run other errands for people who are hesitant to venture out and providing support for the Mondovi Area Food Pantry if needed.

"We're definitely available to help with anything," commented Mary Quarberg, Mondovi Lions Club president.

Quarberg is also promoting a Lions Club-sponsored Red Cross bloodmobile that,

as of right now, is still a go for May 19 at Friendship Church from 12 - 6 p.m.

"I'm hoping by then we'll be in a better place to have that," said Quarberg, a long-time organizer of local bloodmobiles. "There's still a need out there."

Many blood drives have been canceled in recent weeks due to statewide restrictions limiting gatherings.

The MBA and Lions Club also have a joint plan in the works to support Ellsworth Co-op Creamery by purchas-

ing cheese curds for distribution with local school meals.

The co-op recently sent a letter to producers warning it may have to resort to dumping milk due to shifts in product demand related to COVID-19.

Both the MBA and Lions Club had meetings scheduled for their separate organizations earlier this week, during which they planned to discuss other potential projects/ways to support the Mondovi community during these trying times.



An American flag with the phrase "Small Town Proud" painted on the windows of a home on E. Main is one of many uplifting scenes on Mondovi's main thoroughfares.



Paper hearts fill the window of a common area at Mondovi's American Lutheran Communities. Many resident windows also feature colorful art and messages of hope.



While trotting around town last weekend, the Easter Bunny greeted a group of children on Parker Ave.

Fourth case of COVID-19 virus confirmed in Buffalo County

Brommerich News

Buffalo County confirmed its fourth case of COVID-19 on Monday.

One of the individuals died, one recovered, and two were in isolation, according to April Loeffler, county health officer & public health supervisor.

The fourth case, an individual in their 70s, was in a hospital, and county health officials were following up to learn of people that might have had close contact with the patient.

A third case identified

on Friday was an individual in their 40s. The person was currently recovering at home.

People that might have had close contact with a person afflicted with the virus are provided guidance for monitoring symptoms and quarantine.

"Everyone should be watching for symptoms of illness," Loeffler advised. "If you are feeling sick, avoid leaving your home."

Loeffler said people should contact 211 or Buffalo County Health & Human Services if they need assistance while staying home.

Everyone should continue to follow steps to avoid spread of COVID-19:

- Stay home when possible. Avoid social gatherings with people of all ages.
- Practice good hygiene. Wash hands regularly with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, or use the inside of your elbow.
- Eat a nutritious diet and get plenty of rest.
- If experiencing virus symptoms, such as fever, cough or shortness of breath, call a doctor before going in for treatment.

Wisconsin residents remain under state executive orders to practice social distancing and avoid gathering in groups.

Try to keep a distance of at least 6 feet apart from people. Avoid direct physical contact with others.

Limit the amount of time spent making essential trips to a grocery store or pharmacy. Stay in touch with people by phone to maintain social interaction and support.

Wisconsin on Monday had 154 total deaths attributed to the virus. Some 993 people have been hospitalized. Over 3,400 people had tested positive for COVID-19.

Frontier's home state opens investigation into its business practices

Company serves hundreds of thousands in WI, many in rural areas

by Peter Cameron,
The Badger Project

After receiving more than 1,000 complaints, the state of Connecticut announced an investigation on Wednesday, April 8, into the business practices of Frontier Communications.

The company is headquartered in Connecticut, but provides telecommunications services, like internet and landline phone, in 29 states, including Wisconsin with many rural customers in the Mondovi area.

Nearly 800,000 people in Wisconsin have access to internet provided by Frontier, according to FCC data. For some, it's their only option.

But the company provides federally-defined broadband speeds—25 megabits per second of download speed—to fewer than 2 percent of those customers, according to that same data.

Many other states have investigated the company, including Minnesota, which recommended in 2019 that Frontier take actions like issuing refunds to customers and increase staffing.

Since 2015, Connecticut's Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Consumer Protection

have jointly received more than 1,000 consumer complaints about Frontier regarding things like poor service and excessive fees, the state said in a press release announcing the investigation.

"Frontier does not comment on pending matters," a company spokesman, Javier Mendoza, said in an email.

Since 2017, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection has received 249 complaints about Frontier, according to department spokeswoman Ti Gauger. Figures from 2015 and 2016 were not immediately available. The Wisconsin Department of Justice did not immediately respond to an email asking for complaint figures.

The Connecticut investigation will have no effect in Wisconsin, said Barry Orton, a professor emeritus of telecommunications at UW-Madison. The state has defanged the regulatory power of agencies like the DATCP in recent years, he added.

Asked if it would be conducting its own investigation, that department responded that it does "not have the ability to discuss future or ongoing investiga-

tions of these complaints," spokeswoman Gauger wrote in an email.

Even if they wanted to punish Frontier, regulatory bodies in Wisconsin "can't really fine it—it is broke," said Christopher Mitchell, the director of the Community Broadband Networks Initiative, a Minnesota-based think tank which helps communities with their telecommunications networks.

Reports have circulated since late last year that Frontier is planning to file for bankruptcy.

That's despite the fact that, since 2015, Frontier has received more than \$300 million from the federal government to provide internet in rural areas of Wisconsin. In total, the company has received about \$2 billion from federal and state government agencies to expand and upgrade its rural broadband service nationally.

Regulatory bodies "can't kill it because millions of people rely on it (or try to and cannot) for 911," Mitchell said.

A January report from WSAW TV in Marathon County found that Frontier often took more than three weeks to fix landlines in its territory, preventing residents from calling 911.

That problem is especially severe because much of the area Frontier serves is rural and does not have good—or any—cell phone service.

In 2011, the Wisconsin State Legislature deregulated landline phone companies, scaling back enforcement powers by state agencies like the Public Service Commission.

Earlier this year, Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) sent a letter to the CEO of Frontier, expressing concern about the delay in repairing phone lines. She also wrote to the Federal Communications Commission regarding

the issue.

And Frontier came in last out of 15 telecommunications companies in a ratings survey by Consumer Reports.

"They should tar and feather all the executives," Mitchell said.

This article is reprinted with permission from Peter Cameron, managing editor of The Badger Project (thebadgerproject.org), a nonpartisan, reader-funded investigative journalism nonprofit in Wisconsin. He can be reached at pcameron@thebadgerproject.org.



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Garlick's

Cont'd from front

keeps LaBair up at night—literally. Not only is it difficult to find and retain qualified staff that can handle the responsibilities associated with the job—including care for residents who can be combative—but the financial strain forced her to cut three full-time positions a few years ago, putting the workload on herself and other admins.

“We’re 24/7,” she said. Unless something changes with reimbursement rates, it becomes increasingly difficult to keep the group home business’ seven facilities afloat.

“I can see it in the check-book already,” LaBair said. “I have to be a good steward of the money.”

Cuts to 13 areas were handed down to Garlick’s by Inclusa. One resident received a rate cut double-whammy—reductions to both room & board and care & supervision. That resident can be physically aggressive toward staff and roommates and must be housed alone. It’s in the best interests of everyone’s health and safety, LaBair says, but not financially.

In another case a resident who is on hospice care had their rate cut by Inclusa.

Is Inclusa playing off the compassion care providers have for their residents, knowing they won’t kick an established resident out for a too-low rate?

Odegard and LaBair say, ‘yes.’

“They (Inclusa) know caregivers aren’t doing it for the money,” Odegard said. “But they are. It’s enough to make your blood boil.”

The only recourse they have is to turn away new residents if the numbers don’t add up.

“We’ve learned not to accept new residents for rates that are too low,” Odegard said.

“We’re not asking for a handout; we’re asking for a fair rate—the cost of doing business,” LaBair added.

The kicker in the whole situation: Inclusa continues to show profits while cutting funds paid to care providers like Garlick’s.

According to financial information reported by Inclusa to DHS alongside other Wisconsin MCOs, the company’s validation rate increased and they continue to show a profit margin.

For the third quarter of 2019 (the latest available) ending Sept. 30, Inclusa reported income from operations at \$8.5 million for the calendar year to that point—well above all but one other MCO. Inclusa also features the highest administrative cost at 4 percent while others are around 3 percent, perhaps accounting for large

raises for Inclusa higher-ups two years ago.

Another kick to the gut: group home workers who continue to perform their duties during COVID-19 won’t see any wage increase and could be forced to work overtime if other care providers come down with the virus.

“We should be getting extra money to give the staff hazard pay right now,” Odegard said.

And while other MCOs are working diligently with care providers to secure personal protective equipment (PPE) for CBRF needs, Garlick’s staff say they haven’t gotten any help from Inclusa.

Mark Hilliker, Chief Executive Officer of Inclusa, said in a phone interview Monday the organization is working on ways to support providers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Hilliker also explained the April 1 change to room and board rates was due to updating the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) rates from 2017 to 2019. Those rates are used to subsidize costs for residents who can’t pay the full amount for care. The balance is then subsidized by Inclusa to the tune of several million dollars per year, he said.

“That’s a pure cost to our organization because it’s not reimbursed by Medicaid,” Hilliker said.

Overall across the organization, room and board rates increased, Hilliker said, though conceding there were some that dropped.

Given that those costs for care typically range from \$644 to \$1,300 per month with Inclusa, the room and board rate Garlick’s is receiving appears to be “on the low side,” he said.

Calculating room and board rates is all formula-based using the HUD rate, so there’s “not a whole lot of control over the methodology,” Hilliker said.

There is opportunity for negotiation “to try to come to an adequate solution,” he added. “We try to stay true to the methodology because we’re reimbursed by the state via Medicaid dollars.”

That funding “has been pretty static” in recent years, Hilliker noted, and is part of a long-term solution to the financial picture.

The organization has more control over the care and supervision rates—cuts to which prompted the formulation of the care provider group headed up by Garlick’s two years ago. Yet Hilliker reports that Inclusa invested \$8.5 million into resident rates.

“We’ve been looking to invest in our providers across the

region,” he said.

Division of that funding could be creating winners and losers.

“Ultimately our goal as a MCO is to do what we can to support sustainability across the system,” Hilliker said.

The MCO strives to “work collaboratively” to address issues care providers are experiencing and encourages outreach to work through financial struggles.

“We’re always willing to sit down and talk about member-specific situations,” Hilliker said.

LaBair says she’s sought help from DHS itself and even local legislators, but her concerns have yet to gain traction.

“They all pat you on the back,” she said.

DHS has advised her to ensure clear communication with its MCOs like Inclusa—a difficult process, LaBair says—and advised that reimbursement rate decisions lie with the policy committee.

In the meantime, Garlick’s plans to continue to collaborate with other care providers for ideas to ease the financial strain.

“These ‘ma and pa’ outfits really have it tough,” LaBair said. “It’s going to be very, very hard.”

Department of Revenue announces immediate help for small businesses, taxpayers in response to COVID-19

Last week, the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR), like the IRS, automatically extended income tax payment and return due dates to July 15, 2020. Today the department announces additional measures including immediate steps to help small businesses with sales tax payments due on March 31. Small businesses can immediately request an extension to file sales and use tax returns due March 31, 2020 until April 30, 2020 and due April 30, 2020 until June 1, 2020.

Other elements related to this important sales tax change are as follows:

- DOR will not assess late filing fees or penalties if sales/use tax returns are filed by April 30 or June 1.

- By law, payments are due March 31 and April 30; 12 percent interest will accrue beginning on the due date, unless the legislature changes the law to allow the DOR to waive interest.

• Send your request to DOR-Registration@wisconsin.gov.

“We understand the anxiousness Wisconsinites have at this

Letter to the Editor

50th anniversary of Earth Day

April 22, 2020, is the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day. How will it be celebrated this year? What memories do you have of participating in the past? Did you know that in 1972 nearly 2/3 of the lakes, rivers, and coastal waters had become unsafe for fishing or swimming?

Gaylord Nelson was the Governor of Wisconsin during the 1950s. He had a passion for the environment/poverty. He along with residents of Wisconsin were concerned with the dilapidated state parks, exploiting of public resources by private industry and the state’s polluted waterways. He worked to overhaul the DNR to have them focus on conservation, established the conservation corps, and acquired land to be converted into public parks and wilderness areas.

In the 1960s he became a U.S. Senator. He again educated, spoke, built coalitions, and fought for environmental issues on a larger scale. His challenges were big, but he persisted. Through his tenacity and grassroots action the first Earth Day, April 22, 1970, was a success. It is said

that 20 million Americans gathered to confront concerns in cities, states, nation, and planet. It then turned into an action day.

As a U.S. Senator, Nelson was instrumental in getting such Federal Legislation passed:

- 1968: National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (St. Croix River one in the original) Preserve certain rivers with outstanding natural, cultural, and recreational values in a free-flowing condition for the enjoyment of present and future generations. (November 2018- 209 Rivers in 40 States.) National Scenic Trails—there are now 11. Wisconsin is so fortunate to have Ice Age and North Country, 4,600 miles trek.

- 1970: Apostle Islands became a National Lakeshore.

- 1972: Clean Water Act. The Federal Pesticides Act was amended from the 1947 original (to define ‘general’ vs. ‘restricted’ use of pesticides). Endangered Species Act (The law also prohibits any action that causes a “taking” of any listed species of endangered fish or wildlife.)

- 1990: Environmental Education Act—Provide to National Leadership to increase environmental literacy.

In the current Federal Government Leadership there is focused command to rollback regulations. In fact as of December 19, 2019 58 rollbacks were completed (16 alone in regards to air pollution and emissions) another 37 in process to make a total of 95 rollback regulations. The history of day reminds us once again, ‘people’ needed to step up and speak up for the community.

Please take a moment to pause, think about Mother Earth. How important is clean water or clean air in your families lives? How important is it for you to be a sportsman? At this time of being safer at home; you may want to look up Blue Marble on Google, make a plan what a difference you can make. The goal of Earth Day is to be civic minded and teach legislative personal the importance of “we” not “me” in essence thinking about tomorrow.

Carolyn Kaiser
Elk Mound

time,” commented Gov. Tony Evers in a DOR press release. “This event impacts not only our health and safety but also our finances. Our state agencies are working to assist our citizens in any way that we can.”

Other significant changes by DOR to assist both individual and business taxpayers as they face challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Expediting claims for both the Earned Income Tax credit and Homestead credit;

- Lowering the interest rate from 18% to 12% on unpaid balances on sales and use tax returns due March 31 and April 30, 2020. Contact: DORTORReturnAdjustment@wisconsin.gov after you receive a bill to request a reduction of the in-

terest rate;

- Allowing installment payment plans for amounts reported on returns but unpaid. To find information on how to request an installment payment plan, please visit the DOR website.

- Relaxing collection activities on delinquent amounts due between now and July 15, 2020, unless suspending the collection activity would compromise the state’s ability to collect the amount due.

- Delaying the start of most new audits of small businesses

“The Department of Revenue is doing everything possible to help small businesses and individuals that are suffering economically during this health emergency,” commented Peter Barca, Secretary of Revenue.

“Our employees are coming up with new ideas every day as they deeply care about the people of our state, and they have a strong desire to help. We want to be part of the solution to ease the pain and improve the lives of citizens of this state.”

Additional contact information: Audit Assistance: (608) 266-2486 or DORIncome@wisconsin.gov;

Appeals Assistance: (608) 266-0185 or DORAppeals@wisconsin.gov;

Overdue Tax or Debts Assistance: (608)266-7879 or DORCompliance@wisconsin.gov.

The Wisconsin Department of Revenue notes that most services are found online at www.revenue.wi.gov.

NOTICE TOWN OF CANTON Annual Meeting

The Town of Canton Annual Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Canton Town Hall.

Agenda:

1. Minutes of 2019 annual meeting
2. 2019 Financial report
3. Public input.
4. Adjourn

Regular Monthly Meeting

Regular Monthly meeting of the Canton Town Board will be held immediately following the annual meeting.

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. Minutes of prior meeting
4. Public input
5. New and old Business
6. Clerk and Treasurers Reports
7. Payment of Monthly statements
8. Adjourn

WNAXLP Mindy Fichtenbauer, Clerk

MEETING NOTICE

Gilmanton School District Board of Education

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Tues., April 21, 2020
5:15 P.M.

Gilmanton HS Gym
Agenda Posted Online

WNAXLP

******* RECYCLING CENTER OPEN SATURDAY *******

The City of Mondovi will be opening the **Recycling Center and Brush Dump only from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. (noon) this Saturday, April 18, 2020**

There will be no exchange of payments and no acceptance of appliances, beds, or other furniture – drop off only of brush and recyclables.

Sincerely,
Bradley J. Hanson
City Administrator/Clerk

WNAXLP

BIDS ARE BEING ACCEPTED for the mowing season at Thompson Valley Cemetery until Friday, April 24.

Any questions, contact Steve Ashwell, President, Thompson Valley Cemetery Association.
715-926-5602.

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123 W. Main St., Mondovi • (715) 926-4970

Mirror Lake Pavilion City of Mondovi, Wisconsin

Bid Opening: 11:00 a.m. (CST), Friday, May 1, 2020

Location: Mondovi City Hall
156 S Franklin Street
Mondovi, WI 54755

Sealed bids for the project designated above will be received for and in behalf of the City of Mondovi, hereinafter referred to as the Owner, at the location listed above, on or before the above-mentioned time and date, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Work consists of construction of a wood frame park pavilion with restrooms, kitchenette area and associated grading work.

Work for this project will be bid in Six Bid Packages, including “Building”, “Concrete”, “Electrical”, “Civil Site Work”, and “HVAC”. Contractors shall be responsible for securing any and all State and Local plan review approvals, permits and required engineered drawings. The Owner shall pay for any plan review or permit fees.

Bids shall be directed to the Owner securely sealed and endorsed upon the outside wrapper “BID FOR MIRROR LAKE PAVILION”.

A pre-bid meeting is required for all prime bidders; including “Building”, “Concrete”, “Electrical”, “Civil Site Work”, and “HVAC” to be held at Mirror Lake Pavilion Site, ½ block north of Glen Ave on N. Eau Claire St. on Friday, April 24 at 3:00 P.M. (CST) to tour the site and become acquainted with the various work items.

The City of Mondovi reserves the right to reject any and all bids, without cause, and accept the bid(s) that is in the best interest of the City.

Bradley J. Hanson
City of Mondovi Administrator/Clerk

WNAXLP

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MONDOVI MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL IMC WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2020 6:30 P.M.

- 1. OPENING**
 - A. WELCOME TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
 - B. Call meeting to order and roll call
 - C. Pledge of Allegiance
 - D. Agenda Order Approval/Revision
 - E. Community Communication
- 2. CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. Minutes (The Board may convene in closed session under 19.85(1)(c) and (f) and reconvene in open session)
 - B. March 2020 Expenditures
 - C. Individual contracts (The Board may convene in closed session under 19.85(1)(c) and (f) and reconvene in open session.)
- 3. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION AGENDA**
 - A. Elementary Staffing Request
 - B. Anthony Acres Staffing Request
 - C. Delta Dental Renewal for 2020-2021
- 4. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**
 - A. Board Members to award diplomas at Graduation May 23, 2020
 - B. Administrators’ Reports
 - C. Department Reports
 - D. Finance Manager’s Report
- 5. BOARD MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS**
 - A. Board Member Announcements and/or Requests
- 6. ANTICIPATED CLOSED SESSION**
- 7. ADJOURN**

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Patients and visitors required to wear masks when at Mayo Clinic facilities Guidance provided for donations

As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, Mayo Clinic Health System continues to assess and adjust practices to best protect the safety of patients, visitors and staff.

Beginning Monday, April 13, patients and visitors will be required to wear a personal homemade or cloth mask while on any Mayo property and are highly encouraged to bring their own cloth masks to help conserve the supply of surgical masks for front-line medical staff. If you do not have a mask, Mayo Clinic Health System will provide one. Please note, visitor restrictions remain in place until further notice with few exceptions.

This decision is based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Mayo Clinic experts.

Patients and visitors will see staff providing direct patient care wearing surgical masks. In procedural areas, additional personal protective equipment will be worn by staff according to Infection Prevention and Control guidelines. This additional equipment may include eye protection. Staff working in non-patient care areas also may be wearing a mask.

"Your understanding and your compliance with these

mandatory guidelines is greatly appreciated," a Mayo Clinic press release states.

Guidelines for community donations

Mayo Clinic Health System continues to be humbled by generous offers from the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Community members, businesses and restaurants continue to come forward with offers of donations.

Those wishing to donate new personal protective equipment supplies should complete a donation form on the COVID-19 page on the Mayo Clinic Health System website. Inquiries regarding how to donate cloth face masks, food or other thank-you items to staff can be emailed to EUCOMMUNITYGIVING@mayo.edu.

The following supplies, in unopened original containers and in sufficient quantity to make handling practical, are being accepted: N95 masks, nitrile gloves, face shields, surgical gowns and masks.

Supplies currently not accepted are: homemade cotton gowns; open boxes of supplies; miscellaneous supplies that are not medical-grade.

If the list of accepted items changes, this information will be updated on the Mayo Clinic Health System website.

Due to recent CDC recommendations regarding cloth masks, Mayo Clinic is now requesting and accepting cloth mask donations. Donors should follow CDC guidance on cloth face coverings for design and material (all cotton).

Donors can drop off cloth masks Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to noon at these local Mayo Clinic Health System locations:

- Eau Claire: The drop bin is outside of the Energy Plant. From Fifth Street (Bellinger Street), turn toward the hospital onto Chestnut Street. The collection bin will be at curbside. Continue out to Fulton Street.

- Menomonie: The drop bin is outside door 17 at the loading dock entrance. The bin is near the Education Center entrance off of Stout Road.

- Osseo: The drop bin is outside of the staff entrance by the loading dock on the east side of the ambulance bay. The bin is across from the Emergency Department parking lot. Enter from Rose Lane.

Leave donations in marked bins. Donors should not enter the buildings.



Many area hospitals and healthcare facilities—including Mayo Clinic Health System—are accepting donated cloth face masks made in accordance with CDC guidelines.

-Contributed photo

Food donations must come individually packaged. Foods packaged so that multiple people can access one container, such as pizza or a bucket of chicken, cannot be accepted. Mayo Clinic Health System requests those wanting to donate food provide at least an eight-hour notice. All food donation offers should be routed to EUCOMMUNITYGIV-

ING@mayo.edu.

"As always, everyone's safety remains Mayo Clinic Health System's primary focus," a press release from the organization states. "Mayo Clinic Health System sincerely thanks the community for its generosity and care shown toward the organization during this challenging time."

Bulletin Board

The Al-Anon meetings that were held every Monday night at 6 p.m., at Our Savior's United Methodist Church, 210 S. Eau Claire St., Mondovi, are not meeting at this time. If you have any questions, call 715.577.1966.

The Alma Alcoholics Anonymous open meetings will be Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church, 709 So. 2nd St., Alma. For more information, call George, 507-251-0550, or John, 608-685-4970.

Community Bible Study, sponsored by the Mondovi Area Clergy Association held at 7 a.m. on Thursday mornings will be postponed until further notice.

Bolton Refuge House will host a support group for individuals experiencing domestic violence on Tuesdays, 5 to 6 p.m. Any gender is welcome to attend. Bolton Refuge House will host an educational support group on Thursdays from 5 to 6 pm. If you are interested in attending, call 715-926-6080 for more information.

Alienated Grandparents Anonymous meet the second Monday of each month, 3 to 5 p.m., at the Zion Lutheran Church.

CVTC offers fire facility for COVID-19 fight Decontamination site set up for area emergency vehicles

Courtesy of CVTC Communications

Chippewa Valley Technical College's Fire Safety Center will become the focus of efforts to decontaminate emergency response vehicles should the COVID-19 pandemic reach levels that overwhelm current resources. Use of the facility is one of the ways that CVTC is offering its support in the local response to the outbreak.

Kim Nessell, retired Eau Claire fire chief and former CVTC instructor, said emergency services already have places and procedures for decontaminating vehicles from contagions and hazardous substances when needed. However, if the outbreak becomes severe enough, those normal procedures may not be adequate to bring the vehicles back into service as quickly as they are needed.

"Eau Claire is a huge re-

gional medical center, and we have a large number of emergency vehicles coming here from all over the area. In a severe outbreak, they would also need to be decontaminated quickly," said Nessell, who is now working with the Eau Claire City-County Health Department on response to the virus.

Three lanes have been set up as stations for vehicle decontamination (decon) at the Fire Safety Center at CVTC's West Campus.

"Primarily the decon areas are set up outside of the building, but the center lane has been designed so that if because of severe weather they can't decon outside, they can go inside the burn room," Nessell said.

Nessell managed the Fire Safety Center for CVTC when it first opened and is familiar with the controlled environment inside. He added that a personal

shower site is available at the facility for emergency service workers.

CVTC is an ideal location for an emergency decontamination site, Nessell said. "Because CVTC provides hazardous materials training for a wide area, there are a lot of resources there that can be deployed and replaced later. It would take three times as long to set up a similar decon site if it didn't have CVTC's readily-available supplies."

Other CVTC resources are also available to be deployed when needed.

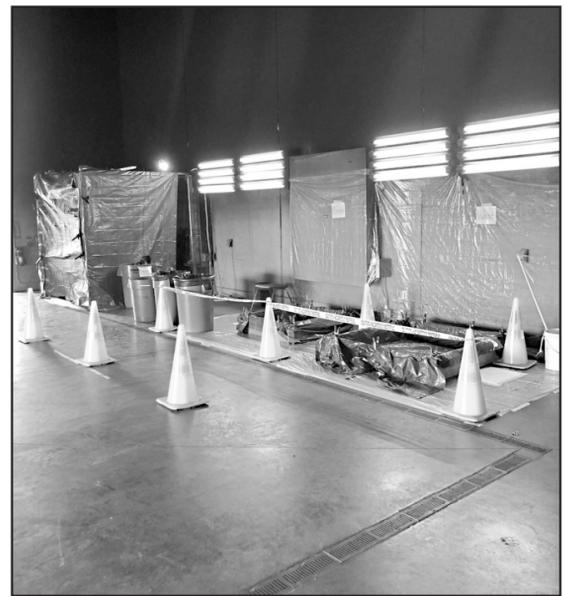
"The Eau Claire County COVID-19 Response Team asked if they could borrow squad cars and ambulances for transport of COVID-19 patients to isolation facilities," said Eric Anderson, associate dean of emergency services. "The Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement program has donated the

use of four Ford Explorers and the Emergency Medical Services program has donated the use of its ambulances."

As previously reported, CVTC has already donated personal protection equipment (PPE), ventilators and other equipment from its health and emergency services programs.

"We inventoried all Fire-Medic and Emergency Medical Services supplies, including non-disposable equipment and disposable PPE," said Mark Schwartz, emergency services continuing education coordinator. "Our disposable PPE, like masks and gloves, were divided up for our 11-county area."

In addition, CVTC has now made available equipment such as portable radios, self-contained breathing apparatus, thermal imaging cameras, a HazMat trailer, generators, level A training suits, oxygen tanks and cardiac monitors.



Space inside the burn room of the CVTC Fire Safety Center is set up as a decontamination location for emergency service vehicles during the COVID-19 pandemic.

-Contributed photo

Parenting children during the coronavirus pandemic: Tips for parents

by Stephanie C. Nash, LICSW, President & CEO, Episcopal Center for Children

self care. Here are some tips to help.

Tips for family and self care while home:

- Do frequent hand washing with soap and water. When not available, use hand sanitizer.

- Wash or clean incoming groceries before bringing them into your home.

- Wipe down common household surfaces that are used frequently, such as the kitchen counters, dining table, door knobs, refrigerator handles, bathroom counters, faucet handles, and other surfaces.

- Create a calm tone in your home. Adults should strive to be self-aware. Anxiety may be high for adults in the home, but it is important to provide reassurance and calm to your children—they are watching and listening to how you respond to this crisis.

- Check in with your loved ones and talk with your children about their thoughts and feelings. For younger children, follow their lead. Be honest

and use appropriate talk. Limit child viewing of daily news broadcasts. For older children, be honest and have age appropriate discussions. Validate their concerns while providing reassurance and understanding for their feelings.

- Maintain routines as much as possible. Young children especially will need structure that replicates a school week. Make time for snacks and movement breaks.

- Give daily, positive affirmations and encourage family members. This might be as sim-

ple as saying, "Wow, you are doing great at sharing the game with your sister" or "Thanks for being helpful by clearing off the table" or "You were so responsible with your online assignment."

- Offer healthy and nutritious snacks and meals.

- Use the time at home to engage in activities with your family—such as board games, baking, puzzles, home projects, book discussions, arts and crafts, jam sessions, home recitals, dance and exercise workouts, yoga, barbecue, cookout,

front porch picnics, and more.

- Set boundaries. Give yourself permission for some quiet time/space during the course of the day. For many parents or guardians, that might mean getting up before everyone else, or having a quiet time to pray, meditate, or do breathing exercises.

- Encourage family chores that are age-appropriate for everyone in the family. Offer praise for completed chores and talk about how everyone is working together.

- Set intentions and realistic

expectations for yourself. One way to do that is to write down what you intend to accomplish for the day.

- Exercise self-compassion. Be kind to yourself during this time of challenges.

The gratitude for the commitment and compassion of first responders and health care providers is beyond measure. Thoughtful expressions of kindness from friends and neighbors within our communities continues to reflect humanity at its best.

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Branger receives 2019 DAR Good Citizen honor



Grace Branger

Grace Branger, daughter of Jay and Kolleen Branger of Gilmanton, has received the Good Citizen Award from the Eau Claire Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).

This award is given to a high school senior who excels academically, participates in extracurricular activities, and is active in the community. An award ceremony was to be held Monday, April 6, 2020 at the Chippewa Valley Muse-

um, but was canceled in compliance with efforts to minimize COVID-19 exposure.

A senior at Gilmanton High School, Branger is most proud of being a member of the National Honor Society, the president of her high school Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) chapter, being selected for Badger Girls State, and serving as a volunteer at the Sunday School program at her church.

Herb Kohl Educational Foundation announces cancellation of award recognition luncheons

Public health emergency forces statewide events to be canceled

The Herb Kohl Educational Foundation announced last week that its 2020 award recognition luncheons have been canceled.

The local event was scheduled for April 26 in Eau Claire, and has been canceled along with other planned awards ceremonies around the state due to the ongoing public health emergency.

Casey Denk, a senior at Mondovi High School, is one of four students in CESA 10 chosen to receive a Student Excellence Scholarship award

and was set to receive the honor at the Eau Claire event.

Excellence Scholarship recipients have demonstrated excellence in the academic arena and high motivation to achieve, have displayed a broad range of activity and leadership outside the academic setting, and have shown strong promise for succeeding in college and beyond.

Previously the Herb Kohl Foundation announced the recipients of the 312 Herb Kohl Foundation awards for Wisconsin students, teachers and principals. Awards in the amount of \$6,000 are being made to 100 teachers, 16 principals and their schools, and

\$10,000 scholarships will be given to 193 graduating high school students.

Due to the potential long-term need for social distancing, and restrictions on large group gatherings, the awards recognition luncheon events will not be rescheduled.

"The decision to cancel these events was a difficult one, but it was one that was made with the health and safety of our attendees on our minds," commented Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Director Kim Marggraf in a press release. "Herb Kohl was looking forward to meeting the many outstanding Wisconsin students, teachers, and

principals who have received awards this year, and celebrating their accomplishments with them. However in this challenging time, safety is our priority."

The dissemination of the awards remains unchanged: teachers, principals and schools will receive their award checks in June, and scholarship checks will be sent to students' educational institutions in early August. Students must send the foundation their postsecondary institution and disbursement information by June 30, 2020.

For more information, visit the organization's website at KohlEducation.org.

Art contest opportunity for Wisconsin students

Wisconsin public school students are invited to participate in the fifth annual WEA Member Benefits Student Art Contest.

New in 2020, the contest now has a theme: "Adventure and Explore." Art submissions can include places students have traveled or dream of traveling to, an imaginary place, a person or creature that is adventurous or likes to explore, or students are able to provide their own creative interpretation of the "Adventure and Explore" theme.

Again, this year, mone-

etary prizes from the WEA Member Benefits Foundation, Inc., will be awarded to 10 student winners, and one student artist will receive the "Loeymae Lange Best in Class" award.

The "Best in Class" award is named in memory of Loeymae Lange, a former art teacher at Cooper Elementary school in Burlington, Wis. Her brother, Dr. Paul Lange, and his wife June are honoring Loeymae's legacy and love for art by providing this memorial gift to the WEA Member Benefits Founda-

tion, Inc.

"To see this contest entering its fifth year is extremely exciting and a testament to the talented students and art teachers we have across Wisconsin," commented David Kijek, WEA Member Benefits President and CEO. "We are grateful to be able to use Dr. Lange's generous gift to honor his sister's legacy and promote recognition and positive self-esteem for student artists."

The deadline to enter the 2020 student art contest is

Thursday, April 30, 2020.

Students are also encouraged to submit art projects done at home during the "Safer at Home" order. Finalists will be announced around May 19. The student finalists and their teachers will be recognized at a student art show in Madison in August.

For more information about the art contest, including contest rules, eligibility, and art submission information, please visit weabenefits.com/studentartcontest.

BOOKMARKS

Katelyn Noack -
Library Director

It was an unusual holiday weekend for many but we hope you enjoyed it and were able to watch our bunny book reading. You may have noticed an uptick in the number of videos and live streams on our Facebook page! We have been working on trying to read more stories for you and any kiddos in your life. We are grateful that many publishers are willing to temporarily suspend some of their copyright infringement policies to allow us to read their titles online. That being said, be sure to watch the videos soon after they air. Due to copyrights of the publishers, all videos will have to be deleted from our page on or before May 31st. Additionally, while many publishers are allowing their books to be read online, there are still some that are not okay with those videos being available on a public format which affects our book choices.

Continuing with virtual programming, it has been nearly three weeks that we have started doing our Knits 'n' Knots program online through Zoom video conferencing. Zoom is entirely free, and you do not need an account to join our program. The video link is posted in the Facebook event but can easily be emailed to anyone who requests it. There is also a call-in audio option in case that works best for you. All things considered this program has been going very well! We have had some hiccups getting connected and that sort of thing, but all seems to be going well. Plus, it is wonderful to see some of

our customers faces together again. We miss you all so dearly! If you have ideas for other virtual programs that the library could do, please let us know. We welcome any way to better our service to the community.

What are some of the other services that the library has for you to do at home right now?

Libby by OverDrive for ebooks and audiobooks

Gale Courses for taking free online educational courses on everything from health to how to learn the guitar

Mango Languages for learning or practicing any one of 75+ different languages

Badgerlink Resources has a large variety of databases such as car manuals, current and historical newspapers, readers advisory, journal articles and so much more.

ECHO for local history via images and videos

We are also posting and highlighting digital resources daily on our Facebook page and our website.

Daily resources and links are posted to our Facebook page and website under the title #LibraryOnline

If you have any questions or would like the library to be highlighting any of our other services during this time, please let me know! Down to a bit of nitty gritty details, the library is rarely staffed "in house" so if you need to contact the library for any reason, please try and send an email to mondovi@wrlsweb.org. All items currently checked out will have due dates extended until after we reopen and materials will not accrue any sort of overdue fines during this time. Stay healthy everyone!

Beaver Creek Reserve is bringing back the Earth Week Challenge for 2020 and the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day. Created to encourage sustainable practices among citizens of the Chippewa Valle, the Earth Week Challenge will take place from April 18-26. The activities are designed to be easy to integrate into most lifestyles and households.

Participants will create teams where they will earn points for each "green" activity they complete and will be entered to win prizes. The first 100 teams to achieve at least 10 points will receive a BCR Earth Week "swag bag" package that includes Milkweed seeds, Earth Day-themed stickers, and more. There are other prize packages as well that include Scheels and Festival gift cards, Eau Claire Chamber Bucks, composting services

from Earthbound Environmental Solutions, Beaver Creek Memberships and more!

"We really expect a lot of participation in this year's Earth Week Challenge," commented Brianne Markin, Marketing and Development Coordinator for Beaver Creek Reserve. "The best part of the challenge, is that so many of the tasks were designed to be things that people could do in their own homes. Even with the restrictions currently in place due to COVID-19, this is something that we feel most households can participate in. The in-person events have of course been canceled, but there are virtual events being held. We hope it not only gives people something to do during this difficult time, but that it also encourages people to try out ways that they can be more sustainable every

Inaugural Earth Week Challenge offered up by Beaver Creek Reserve

day, and even save money in the process."

Due to the "Safer at Home" restrictions, teams are encouraged to consist of a single household or those occupying a single living area.

Team registration opens April 15. The full task list will be posted on April 17. The 77 different tasks are divided between eight different categories and are assigned on their level of difficulty. Examples include turning off the lights when you leave the room (1 point), creating something from a used material (3 points), and walking or riding your bike to work or on errands (5 points). Teams must take a picture of all members engaged in their tasks. Photos can be submitted online along with registration at beaver-creekreserve.org/events. Participants are encouraged to share their photos on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter using #bcearthweek.

New this year, Beaver Creek is introducing their first At-Home Science Fair. Households are encouraged to create a science project and share a short video or photo. Science Fair participants will receive 10 points in the Earth Week Challenge. A Facebook album will be created with the project submissions and the public is asked to vote for their favorites. More information is available on the Earth Week Challenge web page.

Registration opens Wednesday, April 15 and closes Sunday, April 26. Registration and more information can be found at www.beaver-creekreserve.org/events

Tips to stay cyber secure when working remotely

A notable increase of hacking/phishing attempts is being noted by IT companies, as more people are quickly adapting to a new work from home or remote situation. As the current trend continues, the Wisconsin Better Business Bureau offers up some tips to keep you and your business data secure.

Here are 10 best practices for staying cybersecure while working remotely:

1) Remember to save your work and lock your computer when stepping away from your desk. This applies to personal and corporate PCs alike.

2) Log off. When you are finished for the day, log off

your remote PC. Don't just lock it or disconnect from it without logging off.

3) Password protect your office cell phone.

4) Don't click. Watch for any coronavirus (or other) communication asking one to click a link, login or supply a password. These messages should be viewed with extreme skepticism.

5) Never open an attachment, links, or reply to messages unless you are 100 percent certain that the source is legitimate and that the communication was expected.

6) Call to verify. If you get an e-mail requesting you to do a favor from your manager (like purchasing Target

gift cards or wire transferring money), always call them to verify before acting. Most of these requests are bogus.

7) Don't allow remote IT support without verifying the source. Your IT department will communicate with you first before connecting to your computer. If anyone you don't recognize calls you and claims to be with your IT department and asks you for your password, Connectwise, Automate, Machine, or TeamViewer ID or other sensitive information, hang up and call your IT department to see if the request was legitimate.

8) Do not accept unsolicited support calls claiming to

be from Microsoft, Apple, or other vendors.

9) Avoid pop-up numbers. If a message box pops up with a phone number in it, do not call the number.

10) Always run anti-virus/anti-malware software on your computers, particularly home PCs. Ensure that your subscription and antivirus definitions are kept up-to-date. Also ensure that Windows PCs are rebooted regularly and that Windows Updates are routinely installed on home systems.

For more information or further inquiries, contact the Wisconsin BBB at www.bbb.org/wisconsin, 414-847-6000 or 1-800-273-1002.

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Area News

— Correspondents —

Readers can contact the following correspondents with news items for their weekly Herald columns ...

Janice Mikelson — Locals.....(715) 926-3151
Margi Meis — Drammen.....(715) 287-4435
Betty Lurndal — Modena.....(715) 946-3968

Locals Mondovi

An April 19, 1963, entry from the Hill family diary reads, "Jim took 24 dozen eggs to the store. They are 23 cents a dozen." An abbreviated entry for April 21, 1963, states "Last service at Naples Church." I presume that refers to the final worship service at the church (Town of Naples) before it closed permanently.

In last week's paper, there was a Local News article about area residents taking advantage of the nice weather and raking their yards. This week they had to switch their "tools" from rakes to shovels. It snowed all day Sunday and into Monday, with blustery winds.

With area churches having to move their worship services online these past weeks due to the COVID-19 crisis, many area residents after "attend-

ing" worship services at their own churches have been able to "visit" the other congregations in the community as well.

My "cheer" telephone call last week was to a second cousin, Norma Hill Berg, in Minot, ND. We had not made contact with each other for the past four years. A positive result for me of these telephone calls during this virus crisis is that our conversations do not dwell on this health situation, but rather on past and present news about family and friends, making these calls uplifting during this time.

In keeping with church cancellations due to COVID-19, the annual senior member Maundy Thursday noon dinner at Central Lutheran was not held this year. This cancellation is another example of how Covid-19 has affected longstanding traditions. In this case, the dinner has been an annual event for approximately forty years.

HSHS hospitals expand COVID-19 surge preparedness

As part of ongoing COVID-19 surge preparedness, HSHS Sacred Heart and St. Joseph's hospitals are proactively and temporarily consolidating a few specific services beginning Friday, April 10.

This temporary consolidation will allow its hospitals to move certain services to a single location in order to reduce foot traffic, make physical space available for a potential influx of patients, and make more economical use of resources.

Wound care, surgery, and women and infants maternity services at HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital will move to HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital while the COVID-19 pandemic continues. All other services at HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital will remain unchanged, including the emergency depart-

ment.

Hospital officials say the decision was made based on careful consideration with input from colleagues, providers and hospital leadership. In the next several days, leadership at both hospitals will work in collaboration with OakLeaf Clinics and Prevea Health providers to ensure continuity of care services to our patients.

"The Women and Infants Centers are diligently working to ensure our patients' safety during COVID-19 while serving our local communities during these ever-changing and trying times," commented Dr. Erica Barrette, chair of the department of obstetrics and pediatrics at HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital. "We are working closely with any patients who may be affected by this temporary change to ensure a smooth transition."

AMERICAN LUTHERAN COMMUNITIES

This Week at the American Lutheran Communities started on Monday with one on ones, followed by exercise groups. In the afternoon the residents played catch with a beach ball in the hallway. In the evening bowling teams met, 1st place went to Marie Gruber, 2nd was Jim Comoro and 3rd Helen Bauer.

Tuesday morning Chaplain Gary Preston held his Palm Sunday Service followed by the exercise groups. In the afternoon the residents made paper hearts to put in the windows as a message of hope.

On Wednesday morning paper hearts were hung in the windows followed by exercise groups. In the afternoon the residents raced remote control cars in the hallway, A lot of laughter was heard.

Thursday Morning everyone enjoyed fresh baked cookies followed by the exercise groups. In the afternoon some of the residents colored Easter eggs. Wii bowling winners were 1st Helen Bauer, 2nd Marie Gruber and 3rd went to

Jim Comoro.

On Friday morning Chaplain Gary Preston held his Good Friday Service followed by the exercise groups. In the afternoon a game of Bingo was played.

HOMEPLACE HAPPENINGS

We celebrated National Card/Letter writing Month (did you realize this was a thing?) , Stress Awareness Month and Humor Month by doing all kinds of activities! Let's break it down for you.....

Ronda, Voncile, Margie, Dave, Rachel, Andy, Edith, Steven, Nancy, Lois, Larry, Dean, Beulah, Lambert and Gladys all participated in different activities this week!

We did video Easter cards for our families --they will be uploaded to Facebook soon! We laughed while we played BINGO, Dominoes and Yahtzee! Ronda was the Dominoes instructor (Thanks lady!) We made Modge-Podge Easter eggs and boy did they ever turn out cool! I have to say they were all so unique and beautiful—we just loved them! Exercises and Stretches were a big hit as always. We practiced our social distancing making sure everyone was 6 feet away! We were spread

out, so the music was a little louder and Jen had to talk a little louder but that made it all the more fun!

Up on the second floor, we had a week of creating, expression and of course MUSIC! Our favorite hits this week with Alexa? George Jones, Johnny Cash and of course Loretta Lynn! We boogied to the Beach Boys, Chubby Checker and of course Elvis! We have so much with her!

Mary, Mina, Wayne, Marj, Gordon, Dennis, Irene, Cecil, Leona and Delores all got their groove on as they exercised and again when we did arts and crafts! Nothing makes you more creative than listening to music to get your creative juices flowing!

We are creating new wall decorations throughout the

floor, hanging our butterflies and cork bugs, hanging our Hearts in our windows to support Hearts around the world: spreading love not germs!

Remember we will continue to upload pictures of the things we have been up to since our loved ones cannot come to see us so please check 'em out! If you would like an update or to just send a message to your loved one, feel free to email Kelly at: kelly.rohwedder@thefamilyplaceof.com and I will be sure to pass the message along or send some updated pics of your loved one J Once our visitor restrictions have been lifted we will let families and loved ones know. Please stay home, stay healthy!

Have a great rest of your week!

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REVIEWING THE PAST

25 YEARS AGO APRIL 20, 1995

The Community Fund Drive for the new Roger Marten Community Center is underway. This week letters have been sent out to all local city and rural patrons of the Mondovi Post Office.

At Monday night's Mondovi Board of Education meeting, the demolition of the Whelan building was discussed. Bids are being solicited for the demolition, which will take place during the last two weeks in June.

At Tuesday night's re-organizational meeting of the Mondovi City Council, Stanley Quale was re-elected council president.

Photographed are the members of the 1995 Mondovi High School Prom Court: Gina Duncanson and Aaron Bloom, Jessica Schreiner and Mike Brenner, Sarah Holden and Al Sheahan, Kristie Gunnarson and Gabe Anibas, Kristi Evans and Brian Kothbauer. The theme for this year's prom is "Untouchable Memories."

The 1995 Gilmanon High School Prom Court is photographed: Wendee Peil and Jeremy Braem, Melissa Hager and Brandon Rud, Audrey Risler and Ben Moy, Stacey Bloom and Jeremiah Bauer, Melissa Zastrow and Aaron Severson, Jackie Rud and Andy Marum, Tracy Amidon and Corey Gray, Sommer Abledinger and Ryan Rud. "Total Eclipse of the Heart" is the theme for GHS's prom.

50 YEARS AGO APRIL 16, 1970

At its regular meeting, the

Mondovi City Council named Norbert "Nollie" Weiss the new Chief of Police and hired Lynn McDonough as the new police officer. In other action, Gordon Retzlaff was elected council president.

A tea will be held at the Mondovi Public Library on Friday, April 17th, in honor of retiring librarian Helen Wright.

Dutch Nelson is photographed presenting membership awards to Clifford Hoyt and Ebert Alme, Sr. at the annual Knights of Pythias banquet. Hoyt has been a member for 50 years and Alme 25 years.

The RCA franchise in Mondovi has been granted to Leslie Heinemann of Eau Claire and James Mattern of Fall Creek. The new business, to be known as Les and Jim's Sales and Service, is located at 209 S. Eau Claire Street in the former PCA offices.

Photographed is the Board of Directors of the Gilmanon Cooperative Creamery: Harlan Plett, president; Clifford Nyre, vice president, Mryon Sather, manager, and Milford Molland, Orville Klevgard, Robert Steiner, Jerry Gumbert and Larry Wrobel, directors.

75 YEARS AGO APRIL 19, 1945

The entire nation and world was shocked and saddened by the news of the sudden death of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt at his Warm Springs, Georgia, home Thursday afternoon, April 12th. Mondovi stores were closed Saturday afternoon as a tribute to the president. Harry S. Truman, 32nd President of the United States, will move

into the White House with the new First Lady, Mrs. Bess Wallace Truman, and daughter, Mary Margaret Truman.

Ole Bursaw received a telegram from the War Department stating that is brother, T-5 Howard Bursaw, had died on April 2nd from injuries he received on Okinawa Island in the South Pacific. T-5 Bursaw was with the Armored Tank Division.

Harry Barstow, Mondovi, is the new chairman of the Buffalo County Rationing Board's Tire Panel. The main job of the panel is to act on applications for tires by county residents. This panel also acts on applications for rationed automobiles, shoes and rubber footwear.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hovey announce the engagement of their daughter Marjorie to Lieutenant Oliver Noll, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Noll of Alma. Lieutenant Noll, of the U.S. Marines, is stationed at El Centro, California. Miss Hovey is employed as a price clerk in the Buffalo County Rationing Office.

Marriage vows were exchanged by Miss Ardell Norrish, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Norrish, Rock Falls, and Patrick Feeney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Feeney, Mondovi, at Sacred Heart Church Wednesday morning, April 11th. The bride was attended by bridesmaids Valetta Norrish and Rita Baier and the groom by James Feeney and

Lowell Norrish. Carol Norrish was the flower girl and the ringbearer was Billy Feeney.

100 YEARS AGO APRIL 16, 1920

Gus Putzier has had the large basement under his building cemented and it makes a fine storeroom for his stock.

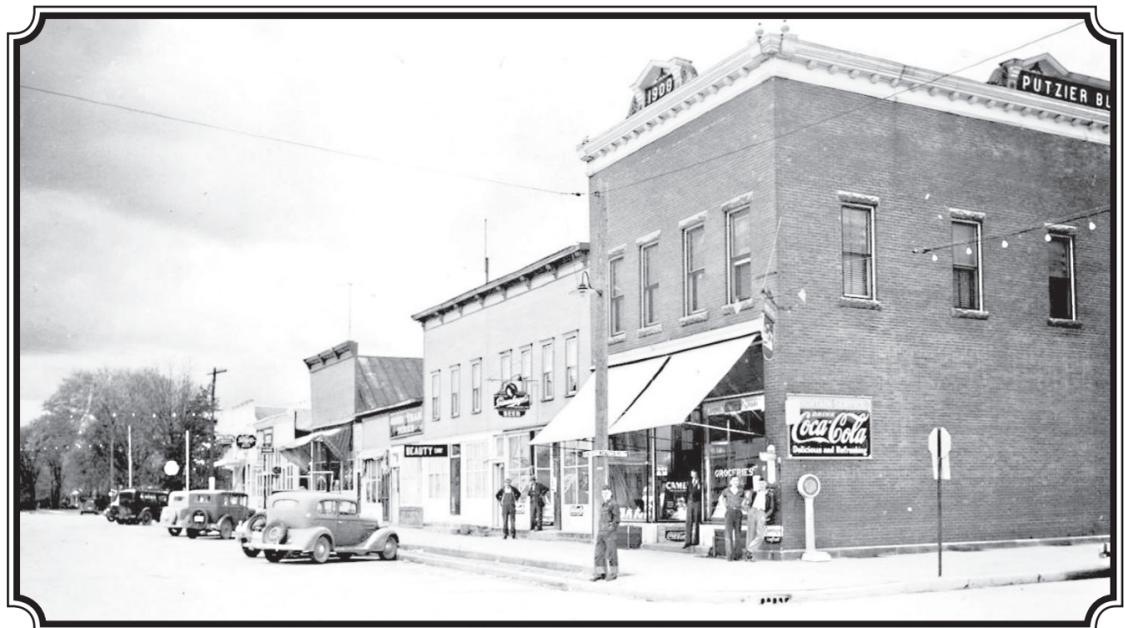
Elected officers of the Mondovi Fire Department Tuesday evening were; C. E. Otis, chief; Max Myers, assistant chief; Peter Peterson, secretary; Jay Ward, treasurer; Walter Rohrschieb, captain of the hose wagon, Charles Ward, captain of the hook and ladder wagon.

Edgar Farrington, who is attending the state university,

is playing shortstop on the varsity baseball team and as usual he is doing excellent work.

Madams Harvey Borst, Clarence Otis, Frank Heineck, A. L. O'Meara, Lila Merritt, George Schaettle and Elwin Loomis will put on a supper at the Congregational Church basement next Tuesday, April 20th. The price is 35 cents.

Clara, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Halverson, was married last Saturday morning to Melvin Strommen of Naples at the Norden church by Reverend Westberg. The bride has been clerking at Barstow's Bakery and the groom is working the home farm he has bought from his mother.



Looking at the businesses on the north side of West Main Street, mid-1930's.

Putzier's Grocery Store was a fixture on the Four Corners for fifty years. Ali Rud occupies this building today.

OBITUARIES



LINDA MORGAN

Linda Morgan, age 69, of Mondovi, Wisconsin, passed away unexpectedly April 5, 2020.

Linda spent her life as a nurse, at both Trinity Hospital, Ft. Dodge, and the American Lutheran Home, Mondovi. She spoke fondly of her patients and she often went on days off to visit with patients about current events and play checkers.

Throughout life, Linda reminisced of large gatherings with aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends. Sitting down for a noon meal at the table often meant clearing the dishes after sunset. The laughter

continued for years after, as the stories were retold.

Linda loved to watch her two sons play sports, sing in choir, and play instruments. As granddaughters came along, she loved to read to them and play games like Uno. Throughout life, she continued friendships with people from Iowa, North Dakota, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. This often meant two hour plus phone calls.

Preceded in death by her parents, Harlyn and Lucille (Reiter) Nelson. She is survived by her sons Joshua and Jeremiah (Jenifer), granddaughters Emma and Clare, brother Jim Nelson, and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, reach out by calling an old friend, writing a letter to someone you love, or helping a stranger. Life is too precious to wait.

A celebration of life will be held in Manson, IA at a date to be determined.

Talbot Family Funeral Homes-Scenic Rivers Cremation of Mondovi assisted the family with arrangements. Please share Condolences and memories with the family at www.talbotfuneralhomes.com.



JOHN A. KLEVGARD

John A. Klevgard, age 77 of Mondovi, passed away on Sunday, April 12, 2020 at AdventHealth, Durand. He was born on August 16, 1942, the son of Bernard and Orvilla (Risen) Klevgard.

John grew up the youngest of 4 boys. After he married the love of his life, Carol, they lived in California for a while. They enjoyed going to Disney and hanging out with friends. John was good at pitching horseshoes. He took 2nd place at a national tournament in Ohio and even pitched against Western movie stars such as Gene Autry.

John was a dedicated and

loving father and husband. When his boys were young he could often be found playing baseball and football with them and the neighborhood kids. He worked hard to provide for his family. He even went back to school later in life to further his management career in the grocery business. When Carol's health began to deteriorate he dedicated his life to taking care of her and being the best husband he could be. Even while challenged with the role of caretaker, John tried his best to stay involved in the lives of his children and grandchildren. He was a hero to his family.

John is survived by his sons, Darrin (Tracy) and Daniel (Stacy); grandchildren, Ryan and Kianna; brothers, Glenn (Thelma) and Mayland (Alice); numerous nieces and nephews; other relatives and dear friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and wife, Carol.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, a private family service will be held.

Talbot Family Funeral Homes, Mondovi Chapel is assisting the family. Please share your condolences and memories online at www.talbotfuneralhomes.com.

In Memoriam

Birthday blessings and love to you Barry on your 37th birthday April 17th. We all miss you so much.

*known you,
and all your special ways*

*Forever on our minds, with
love in our hearts.*

YOUR LOVING FAMILY

*You gave us days of happiness,
then came sorrow and tears.*

*You left us wonderful memories
we'll treasure through the
years.*

*It hurt so much to lose you
yet today we gladly say*

We are better for having

Cards of Thanks

Thank you to everyone that sent cards and called on my 85th birthday.

Don Brantner

Just a little bit of fun....

ARTHRITIS WORD SEARCH

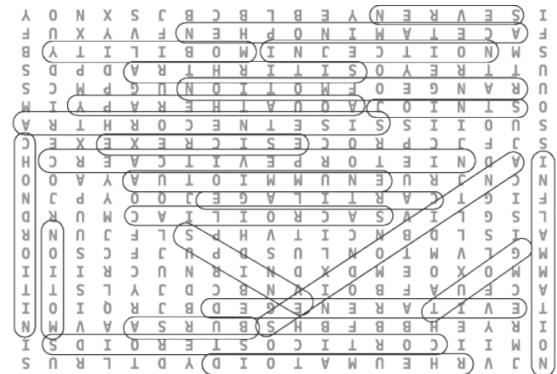
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FIND THE WORDS HIDDEN VERTICALLY, HORIZONTALLY, DIAGONALLY AND BACKWARDS

WORD LIST:

- ACETAMINOPHEN
- ANTIBODIES
- AQUATHERAPY
- ARTHRITIS
- ARTHROCENTESIS
- AUTOIMMUNE
- BURSA
- CARTILAGE
- CHONDROITIN
- CORTICOSTEROIDS
- C-REACTIVE PROTEIN
- DEGENERATIVE
- EXERCISE
- GOUT
- INFLAMMATION
- INJECTION
- JOINTS
- MOBILITY
- MOTION
- NERVES
- RANGE OF MOTION
- RHEUMATOID
- SACROILIAC
- SPINE

ANSWER KEY



Understanding universal masking: FAQ

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Surgeon General recommend the practice of universal masking when in public and interacting with others.

Universal masking, in addition to the practices of physical distancing and proper hygiene, helps to curb the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Prevea Health offers the following answers to some of the most frequently-asked-questions about universal masking.

Q: What does "universal masking" mean?

A: It means that everyone (if able) should wear a mask. There are some exceptions, including children under the age of two, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.

Q: What type of mask

should I wear?

A: Medical-grade masks, such as surgical masks or N95s, should be reserved for medical personnel only during this critical time. Therefore, the CDC recommends cloth masks for community members. There are tutorials for making masks with and without a sewing machine, here. Some tutorials call for the use of common items, such as t-shirts and bandanas, with no sewing required.

Q: When should I wear a cloth mask?

A: You should wear your cloth mask if you must leave your home for any public setting such as a grocery store, gas station, pharmacy or other essential business. You should also wear it if you are interacting with anyone outside your home for any reason.

Q: Will wearing a cloth mask prevent me from contracting COVID-19?

A: Wearing a cloth mask is not guaranteed to prevent you from contracting COVID-19, and it is important physical distancing (stay at least 6 feet from others) is still practiced while wearing one.

Q: If wearing a cloth mask will not guarantee me full protection from COVID-19, then why is it important I wear one?

A: Studies show a significant portion of individuals infected with COVID-19 do not show symptoms, and that even those who eventually develop symptoms can transmit the virus before showing symptoms. Wearing a cloth mask can help to keep your respiratory secretions (where the virus can live) contained and prevent them from spreading to others. A mask can also prevent you from touching your nose and mouth, where the virus can easily be spread.

Q: Should cloth masks be

washed or cleaned?

A: Yes. They should be routinely washed in a washing machine, or with soap and water, depending on frequency of use.

Q: How does one safely remove a used cloth mask?

A: Individuals should be careful not to touch their eyes, nose and mouth when removing their mask, and wash hands immediately after removing.

A new episode of Prevea Health's podcast, *Plug in to Health*, is dedicated to helping listeners better understand universal masking. "COVID-19: Understanding Universal Masking" is available now on *Plug in to Health*, which can be accessed on all major podcasting platforms, including Apple and Spotify, as well as at: www.prevea.com/podcast.

Mayo Clinic announces temporary changes to clinical operations in response to COVID-19 pandemic

Mondovi clinic appointments now by phone or video only

As part of Mayo Clinic Health System's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the organization is taking a number of steps to better protect everyone's safety.

Select clinics in Northwest Wisconsin are switching to virtual-only visits via phone and video only during COVID-19 pandemic until further notice, effective Monday, April 13. During a video visit, patients can connect with their providers using Patient Online Services and communication software that protects patient privacy.

These adjustments reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure as much as possible for patients who require outpatient clinical care. By

transitioning care to a virtual presence, patients no longer need to leave their homes to receive routine or same-day care from their health care providers. These changes also will help ensure staff and resources can be deployed where needed most during the pandemic.

The list of Mayo Clinic Health System clinics or departments switching to phone and video visits only includes Mondovi's Oakridge Clinic (700 Buffalo St.). To make an appointment, call 715-926-4858.

Other clinics switching to virtual appointment methods are: Chetek, Elmwood, Glenwood City and Menomonie Behavioral Health.

As Mayo Clinic Health System continues to maximize preparedness and plan resources for the COVID-19 pandemic response, a temporary change also has been made to the Maternity Care program. Beginning April 6, women who were planning to deliver at Mayo Clinic Health System Northland in Barron or Mayo Clinic Health System Red Cedar in Menomonie will now go to Mayo Clinic Health System in Eau Claire for delivery. Women are being notified of this change, which will remain in effect until further notice.

If a woman is unsure if she can make it to Eau Claire, she should go to the nearest emergency department.

"While this change may cause frustration or inconvenience, it will ensure that Mayo Clinic Health System can maintain the staffing needed to provide safe and effective care," a Mayo Clinic press release states.

Mayo Clinic Health System encourages women to call the Family Birth Center at 715-838-3135 with concerns or signs of labor before coming to any clinic or hospital. When they call, they will be triaged to the right setting of care based on their symptoms and medical need. In the event of a medical emergency, patients should always call 911.

For all your Hometown News Subscribe to: **Mondovi Herald-News** 123 W. Main St. Mondovi, WI 715.926.4970

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UW-Madison event cancellations put WIAA spring sports tournaments in doubt Fate of spring seasons still TBD

As if there wasn't already enough uncertainty surrounding the high school spring sports seasons this year amid the COVID-19 pandemic, another bucket of doubt has been thrown on the situation.

The WIAA says the University of Wisconsin-Madison announced it is extending the

cancellation of campus events through June 30, 2020, which eliminates the possibility of conducting the WIAA State Tournaments scheduled at campus venues this spring.

Events affected by this closure include the boys individual and team tennis tournaments typically held at Nielsen

Tennis Stadium on June 4-6 and June 12-13, respectively; the State Boys Golf Championship at University Ridge on June 15-16; and the State Softball Tournament at Goodman Diamond on June 11-13.

The decision to extend the closure addresses the ongoing concern and efforts to prevent

and control the spread of the virus, the WIAA said.

At its special meeting on March 19, the Board of Control resolved to postpone any decision to cancel the spring sports seasons and the spring State Tournament Series to a later date or until new developments arise and new infor-

mation becomes available.

The Board of Control will conduct its scheduled meeting on April 21 via video conferencing and will discuss options for the remainder of the spring sports seasons and summertime contact.

The WIAA will continue to be in alliance with the direc-

tives issued by Governor Tony Evers in relation to the closure or reopening of schools. Interscholastic activities are extensions of the classroom and serve as a partner in the total education process. They do not operate independently from the school, the WIAA stated.

Team awards doled out to Gilmanon boys basketball players



Ryan Clouse scores for Gilmanon on the fast break in the Panthers' Homecoming game.

by Beth Kraf

Though high school winter sports banquets have been put on an indefinite hold due to COVID-19, Gilmanon High School boys basketball coach Kory Rud utilized technology to announce his team's awards via YouTube video on April 6.

Rud went on camera to host an abbreviated awards program to provide closure to the boys basketball season and recognize the student-athletes for their accomplishments during their 2019-20 campaign.

The Panthers were 7-16 on the season, but the squad had just one senior with the underclassmen shouldering the majority of the workload.

"Younger players had to grow a lot at the varsity level this year against some experienced competition and I was proud of your success on the way," Rud said of his squad, calling them a "coachable bunch of guys."

Individual varsity team awards were announced for the following players:

- Co-MVP—Jarin Rud and Lance Larson
- Mr. Hustle—Tyler Brantner
- Top Newcomer—Carson Rieck
- Most Improved—Brad Severson
- Panther Award—Ryan Clouse

Team captains and juniors Jarin Rud and Lance Larson shared MVP honors this year as Gilmanon's top stats leaders. The two have made their mark at the varsity level since their freshman seasons and stepped into leadership roles this year.

Rud led the team in scoring, averaging 12.6 points per game and 4.6 rebounds per game with a season-high 24 points against Eau Claire Immanuel on Dec. 9. He shot just under 35 percent from the floor this season and was tied for the team's best 3-point percentage at 29 percent with 31 makes to go with a team-high 37 steals.

Rud was the only Gilmanon boys basketball player to make the all-Dairyland Conference list this year, earning a Second Team all-conference selection.

Larson averaged 11 ppg and led the team on the glass at 7.5 rpg with season highs of 19 points vs. Whitehall on Jan. 6 and 15 rebounds vs. Coulee Christian on Feb. 24.

In addition to posting the most rebounds on the team for the season (171), Larson was also tops in charges taken at 14 and had 40 blocks—the most for

any player in a single season during Rud's tenure as coach, he said.

This year's "Mr. Hustle," Brantner had the most makes from 3-point land on the season, hitting 41 while shooting 29 percent to tie with Rud for accuracy.

"He's scrappy and he really helped energize our team," Coach Rud said of Brantner.

As the season progressed, Brantner became a more aggressive player and was more willing to attack the rim, Rud said, helping him finish at 9.3 ppg while scoring 17 points in two of the team's final three games.

Junior Brad Severson, this year's Most Improved selection, handled a share of the team's point guard duties, becoming a proven passer and lock-down defender.

Severson led the team with 68 assists this season, dishing out a season-high eight assists against Cornell on Dec. 27.

"You could see his confidence came a long way during the season," commented Rud.

Ryan Clouse, another GHS junior, was one of the team's most accurate shooters, leading in field goal percentage (45%) and free throw percentage (75%) while contributing just under 7 ppg.

Clouse's contributions also extended to the intangibles, Rud said, mentioning he has a high basketball IQ and is a good teammate—making him worthy of the team's Panther Award.

"He's just an all-around extremely coachable kid—somebody you want in your program," said Rud.

Sophomore Carson Rieck earned the Top Newcomer Award, holding his own in his first season at the varsity level.

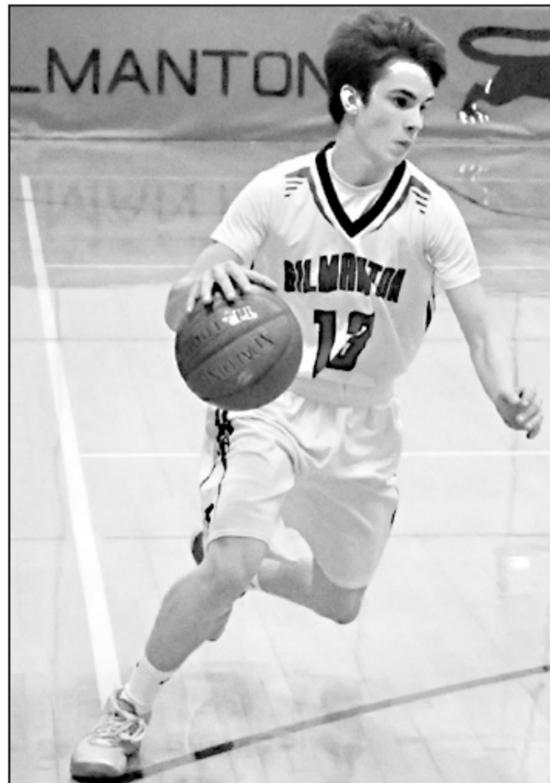
"He had to grow a lot this year confidence-wise as our sixth man," said Rud.

Rieck was a strong force in the low post, averaging about 5 ppg off the bench, but his contributions increased as the season went on. He posted a season-high 22 points against Cornell on Dec. 27 with a dominant performance in the paint that perhaps showed flashes of the future.

"Next year we look forward to him incorporating all the moves we know he can make," Rud said.

Gilmanon's junior varsity team was also recognized as part of the video awards program with awards announced for the following players:

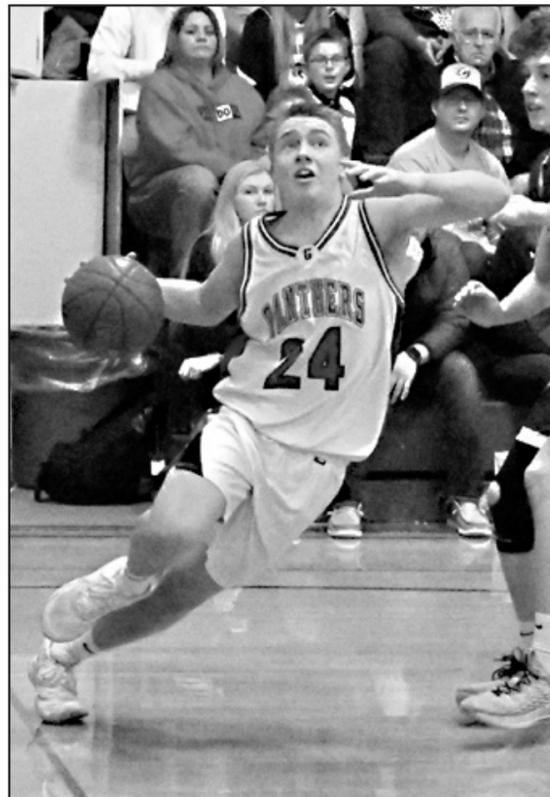
- JV MVP—Hunter Guenther, Freshman.
- JV Most Improved—Trent Parr, Freshman.



Bradley Severson makes a drive to the basket. The junior stepped up this year to handle a share of point guard duties for the Panthers and led the team in assists.



Tyler Brantner takes a 3-pointer in a game this past season. The junior led Gilmanon in makes from beyond the arc with 41.



A team co-MVP and an all-Dairyland Conference selection, junior Jarin Rud led the Panthers in scoring and steals.



Pushing the tempo on the fast break, Lance Larson drives in for a layup. The junior earned co-MVP honors this year for leading Gilmanon in several categories.

GHS winter athletes earn Academic All-Conference recognition

A total of 12 Gilmanon High School boys and girls basketball players have earned Academic All-Conference recognition following the 2019-20 winter sports season.

Students earned the distinction for maintaining a 3.25 GPA and lettering in a varsity sport for the season.

Honorees from the boys basketball team are Ryan Clouse, Carson Rieck, Jarin Rud and Devon Werlein. On the girls' side, Lydia Evans, Marli Evans, Cali Flick, Taylor Hovey, Elizabeth Meier, Karissa O'Connell, Emily Olson and Grace Serum were named to the Academic All-Conference list.



Sophomore Carson Rieck makes a move in the post against Cornell. He scored a season-high 22 points in the Panther win.

Calving: Minimize personal risk

by UNMC, Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health, Omaha, Neb.

Every calving season and site poses its own unique risks. Don't be caught off guard.

No matter what time of year producers calve, there are practices that help improve personal safety during the process.

Both assisting cows with calving or tagging newborn calves can pose significant risk for personal injury during any kind of weather conditions.

"There's no process in place to document how many people have been injured while trying to tag a calf," Aaron Berger, University of Nebraska South Panhandle Extension Unit, says. "Cows are usually unhappy about it, and there are some things that can be done to minimize the risk."

Berger advises that producers consider the necessity of immediately tagging a calf. Since observing which cow claims a calf, tagging may be deferred until the cow is less irritable or weather conditions are more accommodating.

"For instance, during branding season, it's obvious which calf is nursing a cow and tagging can be completed at that time," Berger says. "Cows could also be brought in once the cows is more settled so tagging can be completed more safely."

If a cow needs to be restrained, Berger advises against using a rope attached to a bumper. The safest way to handle an animal is in a facility designed for that purpose.

"Bringing a cow or cow and calf in at any time raises the level of risk for the producer," Berger says. "You're usually moving fast and it's easy to overlook the hazards around you. Use the proper head catch panels that fold out to correctly assist a cow. With a squeeze chute, an animal can go down and injure themselves."

Regularly practicing sound livestock handling practices

will help diminish the chances that a cow will injure a producer. Learning to read the behavior of cows and understanding signs that they are ready to charge. An arched back and lowered head can be an indication of significant agitation.

"If you have to bring a cow in, make sure your facilities are in good condition," Berger says. "Check gate latches and look for any area that might need repair. There may also be times when bringing a cow in poses too big a threat to the producer. No one wants to lose an animal, but if a facility is torn up or someone gets hurt, there's a great cost to that, too."

Regularly inspecting a calving facility prior to calving season can be a valuable exercise in safety. Maintenance on items such as headgates and lighting can be accomplished well ahead of calving, making the season safer for producers and cows.

In evaluating the risk of handling an agitated cow, producers might consider the risk of sustaining a lifelong injury.

"In the heat of the moment, we sometimes think, we're not going to let that cow get the best of us," Berger says. "But injuries incur costs, too. If a producer can't work for the remainder of the calving season or suffers injury that affects them for the rest of their life, that is a very high cost. It's possible that it's best not to keep a cow with that attitude."

Winter calving often involves ice and snow, increasing potential for injury while working around cows and calves. In muddy conditions, rutted pastures or areas also pose additional hazards.

"When it's cold, we have more clothes on when we're working outside, too," Berger says. "It's likely that we're not able to move as quickly to respond to a threat during those kinds of conditions. Working in icy conditions or operating equipment on ice also enhances the risk of injury."



Spring calving season is a busy—and sometimes dangerous—time for farmers.

-Contributed photo

During times when temperatures are frigid and fatigue may affect producers, tasks such as checking cattle during the night hours or assisting a cow on snowpack or ice can quickly become hazardous. Use of four wheelers or horses during these conditions poses its own set of risk for injury.

Anytime a producer assists a cow with calving there's risk of injury to the lower back and neck. Injury can be incurred by straining muscles, being kicked or butted by the cow, etc. Other hazards related to calving are uneven ground, sharp objects, vehicles, fences or railings. Ankle strains and eye injuries may also occur.

Maintaining fitness and strength during the off-season, getting enough sleep and staying hydrated will help avoid physical injury. Minimizing the distance calves or heavy objects are carried during the calving process and taking a break when possible will also lessen the possibility for personal injury.

To help avoid nighttime calving, Berger recommends that producers evaluate the value of research that indicates feeding cows late in the day will result in a large number of daytime births. It may be necessary to check on cows at night but avoiding calving activity at night can greatly decrease the chance of injury to producers.

"In the daytime, it's much easier to see what's happening with a cow and calf," Berger says. "Temperatures tend to be warmer during the day, so calves are likely to need less assistance in getting up and nursing."

"We should take pride in managing our livestock," Berger adds. "But we need to protect ourselves from personal loss, too."

Funding for this educational article comes from the Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Evers orders closure of some state parks

Gov. Tony Evers on Thursday, April 9, directed the Department of Natural Resources to close several state parks to protect the health and safety of Wisconsinites.

Due to unprecedented crowds, litter, vandalism and out of an abundance of caution to protect public health and safety and help flatten the curve, a list of 40 Wisconsin State Parks, Forests and Recreational Areas are now closed and will remain closed until further notice.

No parks or rec areas in the Wisconsin's Northwest Region were on the list.

In the Northwest Region, High Cliff State Park is now closed.

In the Southeast Region, 13 parks, beaches and rec areas were shuttered, including Kohler-Andrae State Park, Kettle Moraine State Forest and Richard Bong State Recreational Area.

South Central Wisconsin holds the majority of the park closures on the list, including Aztalan State Park, Devil's Lake State Park and Dells of The Wisconsin River State Natural Area

"I wanted to keep state parks open for the public to enjoy during this challenging time which is why outdoor activity is listed as an essential activity under the Safer at Home order," commented Gov. Tony Evers in a press release. "Unfortunately, growing difficulty with ensuring social distancing compliance, dwindling cleaning supplies and mounting trash are some of the challenges faced by our state parks staff. We have to address the growing public health and safety concern and protect Wisconsinites."

Despite waiving fees, closing state park offices, visitor centers, and non-essential buildings to help minimize the transmission of COVID-19 at parks, the situation has reached a point where public safety in the parks and surrounding communities takes precedence over keeping these locations open. If the public does not follow social distancing guidelines and vandalizes property, more state parks may have to close.

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by Mark Walters

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The Art of Survival

Hello friends,

In mid February after having watched what was happening in China with the Coronavirus/COVID-19 for a good month I just about wrote a column on what I would do to get prepared for a what I assumed would be a major change in our day to day lives. A couple of important people in my life advised against it and so I did not. This week I am writing about the self sufficient way of life that I have lived for the last 30-years.

In January I started telling my daughter Selina who is a freshmen at UWSP that I felt the virus was going to cause some major problems all over the world.

The day before what was supposed to be spring break Selina packed up most of her belongings in her dorm and moved home. UWSP, like just about every school

An Outdoorsman's Journal

in the world had cancelled in person classes. Whether a person understands this or not, this is a really big deal for college students.

Selina has wanted to learn how to use a chainsaw for quite some time and next fall is hoping to take a chainsaw certification course. Because Selina is home I fast tracked her classes and am down to one more day of wood cutting and everything for next winter will be cut and stacked, just not split.

I felt that there may be shortages of food or at least possibly. A month ago I built a three level trellis in my house and planted green beans, sugar snap peas, summer squash, cantaloupe, zucchini, broccoli and potatoes. In no way do I feel that these vegetables will feed us for a season but they will mean fresh vegetables from mid May to late June.

I rigged up a light over the top of the trellis and my guess is that I will grow veggies from November until June each year. I have my garden setup right in the kitchen, next to a sliding glass door which lets me watch each plant and offers the most sunlight in the house.



Mark Walters rooster is a true gentleman.



Selina Walters in the early stages of learning how to run a chainsaw.

I have had laying hens and a rooster for 20-years. The rooster that I currently have is five years old and is as pretty and kind as I have ever seen for a rooster. My chickens are free roaming and the rooster comes to either a window or sliding glass door every morning and looks inside until he finds me.

When he does find me first he gives me the look, if that does not work he starts crowing until I give him a treat which is always oyster crackers or bread. Here is what is really neat about this guy, especially since most roosters are kind of mean. This old boy would starve to death if I did not give him treats alone. Every time that I have done this which is hundreds, if there is a hen with him, he takes the treat and gives it to the hen.

A lot of people are going

through financial hardships and could find themselves short on provisions. I have lived this way of life which basically is a self employed, outdoor adventures writer, and in a lot of ways a survivalist since I was in my mid 20s.

I am not complaining just stating fact, my income is low but because I do not spend more than I make and more importantly I create so much of my food, heat, and entertainment I do very well for being what could be called "low income!"

None of us knows what the future holds but all of us can think, plan and work so that when adversity strikes we can mentally, physically and financially be as prepared as possible to deal with it.

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31st Senate District Report Pandemic Paycheck Protection

By Senator Jeff Smith

As we near the end of a month while under the COVID-19 public health emergency, I thought of the steps Governor Tony Evers has taken to keep Wisconsinites safe. Keeping in mind how much pressure the Governor has been under both personally and politically, it seems we ought to commend him for his steadfast leadership and resolve. Governor Evers understands the serious responsibility in issuing the "Safer at Home" order — he understands these measures will protect Wisconsinites, but they're not helping win friends or votes. These difficult decisions must be made knowing that.

So let's walk through some steps Governor Evers has taken so far.

March 12 – Governor Evers declared a public health emergency in Wisconsin. As a result, he issued 23 emergency orders, which are intended to streamline responses from state agencies during the public health emergency to help Wisconsinites.

March 21 – Governor Evers shared a COVID-19 policy package with legislative leaders to provide immediate and long-term relief to Wisconsin residents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The proposal includes measures to support local public health agencies; expand telehealth coverage; prohibit surprise medical billing and cover the cost of testing and treatment related to COVID-19; reform election laws; repeal the one week waiting period to receive Unemployment benefits; help essential workers cover childcare costs; and more.

March 21 – On behalf of Governor Evers' request, the

Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) asked the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for additional personal protective equipment (PPE), such as masks, gowns, gloves and face shields. On March 31, Wisconsin received PPE from the Strategic National Stockpile for healthcare workers.

March 26 – Governor Evers launched the PPE Buy-back Program to encourage businesses and organizations to sell PPE to the state in a continued effort to collect more supplies for healthcare workers.

March 24 – Governor Evers issued the "Safer at Home" order in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19.

March 30 – Governor Evers announced a new public-private partnership with Wisconsin businesses to increase COVID-19 testing capacity in the state.

March 31 – Governor Evers requested a major disaster declaration for Wisconsin. This would help all 72 counties and the state's federally recognized tribes receive additional resources in response to COVID-19, including Direct and Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation, Crisis Counseling, Community Disaster Loans and Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Program. Wisconsin was later granted this federal disaster declaration on April 4.

April 1 – Governor Evers introduced a second legislative package. This proposal included additional measures for Wisconsin residents during this difficult time, such as support for small

businesses and workers; aid for emergency food banks; broadband expansion efforts; vaccination coverage to SeniorCare

members; utility assistance for families; and more.

April 3 – Governor Evers signed Executive Order #73, calling for a special session to take up changes to the spring election to be held on Saturday, April 4. The next day, Republican leaders gavelled in and out within minutes, rejecting changes be made to protect voters and election workers.

April 6 – One day before the spring election, Governor Evers signed Executive Order #74 to suspend in-person voting for the April 7th Election until June 2020. He called on the Legislature to meet in Special Session to address the election date; however, Republican leaders chose not to meet. Later that day, the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled the April 7 election to go on, as planned, against the guidance of health experts.

Take note of what is missing throughout this process: any action from the Republican-led Legislature. Republicans still haven't taken action on Governor Evers' COVID-19 relief proposals, introduced more than 3 weeks ago. While Republican leaders have marked Governor Evers as the "bad cop" they've sat on their hands throughout the first month, doing nothing to help Wisconsin during this crisis. Ironic, since they went to so much trouble to take power out of the Governor's hands during the 2018 Lame Duck Session so they could be the decision makers.

So far the Republican leaders only know how to stand in the way and criticize Governor Evers' swift response. That is not leadership. I hope by the time you read this, Republicans will have finally joined Governor Evers in making Wisconsin safer.

Pronschinske's Capitol Report

—State Representative Treig Pronschinske—

Giving Thanks to Our Everyday Heroes

So many things are different now. We are not participating in our normal day-to-day activities with the current pandemic active worldwide. Our businesses and schools are closed, sports have been canceled, and we are in our houses most of the day. Many of the daily activities that we are used to have changed and have been disrupted, but hopefully things will go back to normal soon. As we stay hopeful, there are many ways that you can volunteer to help during this challenging time.

I want to thank all of our small businesses, childcare centers, healthcare employees, first responders, grocery workers, farmers, truckers and all of you for

working together and keeping our local communities safe and strong. I am grateful that all of you are here to help us during our time of need. Your courage and sacrifice does not go unnoticed. As we are currently encouraged to stay indoors and have as little contact with others, there are many things we as members of our communities can be doing to support our friends and neighbors.

There are many different ways you can get involved, even from the comfort of your own home where you are able to maintain social distancing efforts. If you can, consider sewing masks for your local nursing homes and hospitals. This would be a great opportunity

to teach kids a great life skill. Please continue to order food from our local restaurants. They can still deliver and provide curbside pickup for food and by ordering from them, you are helping a local business and its employees.

Remember, you can still go outdoors as well. Fresh air is a very important thing for our mental health and well-being. Consider taking up gardening and donating the excess crops to a neighbor, loved one or somebody in need.

Again, thank you to everyone doing their best during this crisis. This too shall pass soon. As always, please feel free to reach out to my office for help, questions or concerns.

During trying times, Wisconsin's libraries continue providing

A message from State Superintendent Carolyn Stanford Taylor for School Library Month

The recent public health emergency has demonstrated Wisconsin's strength and ability to work together to provide essential resources during a time of crisis.

From utilizing digital learning in unique ways, to going to great lengths to en-

sure students have access to meals and proper nutrition, I am so proud of the community efforts I have seen to provide continuity of learning.

Among our state's valuable resources are our school and public libraries. Wisconsin libraries are the cornerstone of our communities, and represent an essential place for learning, providing access and opportunities. Libraries supply equitable and inclusive services, leveling the playing field for everyone.

April is School Library Month, with National Library Week set for April 19-25. This month represents a time for us to celebrate libraries of all kinds and the incredible staff who devote their days to transforming learning. Library staff do so even during times of crisis, like the one we find ourselves in.

Though the current situation has forced Wisconsin libraries to temporarily close physical locations, libraries remain steadfast providers of continuity of learning with online resources and programming.

I have been impressed to see technology leveraged connecting library staff

with students and families via virtual activities. School librarians have worked tirelessly to ensure educators can effectively utilize online strategies to enhance learning. Wi-Fi connections remain on at our schools and public libraries for families to access the internet whenever and wherever possible.

Through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's BadgerLink, Wisconsinites can access materials online at any time with just a library card or school barcode. Resources available through the online library include encyclopedia articles, lesson plans for educators, skill-building programs, health guides, exam prep materials, and much more.

Although we may be unable to celebrate libraries and librarians this month in face-to-face events, I encourage you to take advantage of Wisconsin library resources and opportunities to continue education. Your local libraries are standing at the ready to support you.

Remember, these unprecedented times are temporary. Not before long, our schools, libraries and communities will be healthy and thriving.

'Made in Wisconsin' is an international enterprise

by Nancy McLernon

Alongside traffic and coffee, news radio is a staple of my morning commute. As I flip through the stations, I'll sometimes hear a pundit lament that "Nothing is made in America anymore."

In reality, there are nearly 13 million manufacturing workers in the United States, including thousands in Wisconsin. Some of these folks are employed by U.S.-based firms. Many others work for companies headquartered abroad.

These international companies employ more than 98,000 Wisconsinites. That includes 48,800 employees in manufac-

turing jobs—or nearly 49 percent of all Wisconsin jobs created by international companies.

According to the latest government data, the number of Wisconsin jobs created by international companies jumped by 15 percent over the past five years. For comparison, the number of private-sector jobs overall in Wisconsin increased by 7 percent.

Wisconsin isn't an anomaly. International companies created 62 percent of new manufacturing jobs in the U.S. over the past five years, according to the latest available government data. More than 670 different international companies employ Wisconsin workers. Many of them

are household names, including IKEA, Volkswagen, and Nestlé.

International firms pay better. Americans who work for global companies earn 26 percent more compensation than the average worker in the same geographic area, according to a new analysis from the National Bureau of Economic Research.

International companies benefit all workers, not just the ones they employ directly. When an international firm sets up a manufacturing plant and creates 1,000 new jobs in America, workers in that geographic area at domestic firms experience a collective \$16 million boost in wages. So for every local job that an international firm creates, the wage pool for employees in the area increases to the tune of \$16,000 annually.

International companies also benefit U.S. small businesses. Over the past decade and a half, international companies increased the amount of business they do with U.S. suppliers by nearly 30 percent—jumping from \$1.5 trillion to \$2.4 trillion, after adjusting for inflation.

In the manufacturing sector, business between international companies and domestic suppliers rose by nearly 70 percent during that same period. That's more than 14 times greater than the overall growth rate achieved by all U.S. businesses.

The economic well-being of local communities depends on international companies and their relationships with suppliers in the U.S. For example, Honda operates manufacturing facilities across Ohio that directly employ more than 13,000 Ohioans. It also relies on a network of more than 600 suppliers across the Midwest, almost a third of which are based in the Buckeye State. In fact, Honda spends \$10 billion in Ohio annually to obtain intermediary goods from regional suppliers.

Sourcing locally is important for reasons beyond just economics—it allows U.S. small businesses to demonstrate a commitment to social equity and environmental sustainability.

For instance, French food company Danone's American division, Dannon, is the leading U.S. yogurt producer. Seeking to establish a more sustainably-sourced array of products, Dannon formed partnerships di-

rectly with seven family dairy farms and two dairy co-ops across the U.S., which now supply all of the milk Dannon uses in its products. In doing so, Danone set high standards for animal welfare and sustainable agricultural practices that must be upheld by their suppliers.

As we celebrate local manufacturers statewide, let's recognize how international companies catalyze local economic growth—giving a whole new meaning to "made in Wisconsin."

Nancy McLernon is the president and CEO of the Organization for International Investment.

Letter Policy
The Mondovi Herald-News welcomes and encourages Letters to the Editor from readers expressing opinions on all subjects. The Herald staff reserves the right to edit and shorten all letters and requires that each letter include the name, address and signature of the writer. If a group of individuals wishes to submit a joint letter, a representative must provide their signature and address. The names of each individual included in the letter will be printed. Letters submitted by organizations require that an individual give their address, signature and consent to have their name printed as a representative of the organization. Names will not be withheld for any reason. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.

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SUDOKO

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on pg. 14

			8					
			7			4	9	
	3		5		9	2	6	
8						6	2	
	7					5		
	5	1			4			
					6		1	
					9		5	2
4		2	1					

Level: Advanced

BUFFALO COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Brommerich News

Civil and small claim judgments listed as filed and docketed in Buffalo County Circuit Court:

- ACTIONS -

Andrew J. Bohnstengel, 43, of Winona, Minn., pleaded no contest and was found guilty of 3rd offense operating while intoxicated. He was fined \$1,784 and sentenced to 65 days in jail with electronic monitoring and release privileges. With good time deductions, the sentence was one day in jail and 46 days on electronic monitoring, according to sentencing guidelines. Bohnstengel was ordered to pay restitution, yet to be determined, and his driver's license was revoked for 24 months. A vehicle ignition interlock device is required for 12 months and Bohnstengel was referred for alcohol or drug abuse assessment. Charges of possessing drug paraphernalia, deviation from designated lane, failure to obey traffic officer signal and making an unsafe turn were dismissed.

Heather A. Treague, 34, of Cochrane, had an initial court appearance hearing adjourned to June 11th on an amended felony charge accusing her of causing a child between the age of 13 and 18 to view sex related activity. A criminal complaint filed by Buffalo County alleges that Treague, a former paraprofessional employee at Cochrane-Fountain City School, exposed intimate body parts in images sent electronically to a student. Treague has a

\$5,000 signature bond with orders to avoid contact with non-family minor children and C-FC School grounds. The bond order includes no possession or consumption of alcohol or entry into taverns.

Kayla M. Tanner, 36, of Mondovi, has a plea hearing scheduled April 29th on charges accusing her of child abuse – intentionally causing harm, and disorderly conduct. The hearing is scheduled in front of Judge Thomas Clark. Tanner has a \$1,000 signature bond with restrictions that include pre-authorized contact with the alleged victim and no consumption or possession of alcohol.

Larry M. Senne, 51, of Durand, has a court hearing May 14th on charges accusing him of theft and credit card theft. Senne has pleaded not guilty. A complaint alleges that Senne stole a credit card from a truck and used it to purchase gasoline as many as four times at businesses in Mondovi and Menomonie. Senne had a \$1,000 signature bond.

Leigh A. Wiseman, 42, of Eau Galle, has a preliminary court hearing July 1st on a felony traffic charge accusing her of 4th offense operating while intoxicated. Wiseman also is accused of 4th offense operating while license suspended. She had a \$5,000 signature bond with alcohol and tavern restrictions.

Kodi J. Taylor, 24, of Arcadia, has a court hearing May 14th on charges accusing him of possessing narcotic drugs, 2nd offense operating without a valid driver's

license, operating with restricted controlled substance and operating a vehicle without insurance. Taylor has a \$1,500 signature bond with drug, alcohol and tavern restrictions.

John E. Miller III, 38, of Whitehall, has a plea hearing scheduled May 8th on a felony traffic charge accusing him of 4th offense operating while intoxicated. Miller also is accused of possessing drug paraphernalia and driver in possession of an open intoxicant.

Joshua R. Klingel, 24, of Mondovi, pleaded guilty to criminal trespass to dwelling and was given a one-year deferred prosecution/sentencing agreement. He was ordered to pay \$343.28 in court cost fees.

Cassandra R. Booth, 36, of Nelson, pleaded not guilty to a misdemeanor charge accusing her of domestic abuse disorderly conduct. She has a case status hearing scheduled June 10th.

Andrew Noetzelmann, 23, of Mondovi, pleaded no contest and was found guilty of disorderly conduct, amended from a misdemeanor to ordinance forfeiture offense. He was fined \$330.50

Jose R. Delgado, 42, of Mondovi, pleaded no contest and was found guilty of disorderly conduct, amended from a misdemeanor to ordinance forfeiture offense. He was fined \$330.50

Sadie I. Mathews, 36, of Mondovi, has a case status hearing May 14th on charges accusing her of party to possession of drug paraphernalia and THC.



POLICE BLOTTER

Brommerich News

Daily log listing selected law enforcement dispatches and emergency 911 phone calls received by the Buffalo County sheriff's department March 30-April 6:

March 30: 12:02 p.m., suspicious activity reported, E. 1st St., Buffalo City. 6:51 p.m., property recovered, lost or found, Buena Vista Road, Alma. 10:19 p.m., restraining order violation, HM Drive, town of Glencoe. 11:08 p.m. to midnight, security door checks, Nelson and Cochrane.

March 31: 12:15 a.m. to 1 a.m., security door checks, town of Buffalo. 5:35 a.m., suspicious activity reported, W. Riverside Ave., Mondovi. 6:18 a.m., coroner call, W764 Valley Drive, Fountain City. 8:43 a.m., property recovered, lost or found, 700 Block, E. Main St., Mondovi. 10:53 a.m., fraud or forgery complaint, Bluff Siding Road, town of Buffalo. 1:42 p.m., suspicious activity reported, North Creek Lane, Mondovi. 2:05 p.m., child custody, welfare or abuse issue reported, S. 2nd St., Alma. 4:22 p.m., fire department call, Dry Coulee Road/Paradise Hill Road, town of Nelson. 5:09 p.m., fraud or forgery complaint, S. Main St., Alma. 8:25 p.m., suspicious activity reported, Spring Lake Road/Lower Spring Lake Boat Landing, town of Belvidere. 10:15 p.m., domestic dispute reported, 100 Block, N. Washington St., Mon-

dovi.

April 1: 12:01 a.m. to 1:20 a.m., security door checks, Nelson and Alma. 12:37 a.m., coroner call, S2939A Indian Creek Road, town of Milton. 4:56 a.m., check welfare of person, 200 Block, N. Eau Claire St., Mondovi. 8:58 a.m., warrant, 224 E. Main St., Mondovi. 9:16 a.m., fire department call, 175 S. River Road, Buffalo City. 12:58 p.m., ambulance requested, 600 Block, Buffalo St., Mondovi. 5:08 p.m., suspicious activity reported, 100 Block, S. Washington St., Mondovi. 6:25 p.m., ambulance requested, 600 Block, Buffalo St., Mondovi. 6:44 p.m., officer/legal-paper service, 217 S. Main St., Cochrane. 7:24 p.m., suspicious activity reported, Highway 35, town of Milton. 8:56 p.m., harassment complaint, 200 Block, W. Riverside Ave., Mondovi.

April 2: 4:47 a.m., ambulance requested, 600 Block, Highland Ave., Mondovi. 1:19 p.m., check welfare of person, N. Main St., Alma. 2:09 p.m., noise complaint, N. Main St., Cochrane. 3:05 p.m., trespassing complaint, Highway 35, Fountain City. 3:15 p.m., attempt to locate person or missing person, Oak St., Mondovi. 5:14 p.m., mental health/behavioral case, Oak St., Mondovi. 5:31 p.m., suspicious activity reported, County E, Alma. 5:56 p.m., coroner call, 200 Memorial Drive, Mondovi. 6:36 p.m., domestic dispute reported, North St., Fountain City. 7:16 p.m., harassment complaint, Owen Valley Road, town of Canton. 8:43 p.m., domestic dispute reported, S. Main St., Fountain City.

April 3: 8:02 a.m., suspicious activity reported, County I, town of Nelson. 12:49 p.m.,

sex crime, Dry Coulee Road, town of Nelson. 1:44 p.m., officer/legal-paper service, S1555 County I, Alma. 11:28 p.m. to midnight, security door checks, Milton, Gilmanton, Fountain City and Buffalo.

April 4: 12:08 a.m. to 2:54 a.m., security door checks, town of Buffalo and Fountain City. 3 a.m., security door checks, town of Modena. 5:08 a.m., ambulance requested, 400 Block, N. Washington St., Mondovi. 5:16 p.m., suspicious activity reported, Buena Vista Road, Alma. 6:02 p.m., suspicious activity reported, N. Main St., Alma. 10:05 p.m., security door checks, Buffalo City.

April 5: 2:22 a.m. to 3:43 a.m., security door checks, Buffalo City, Nelson and Naples. 3:09 p.m., ordinance violation, Buena Vista Road, Alma. 3:57 p.m., ordinance violation, Buena Vista Road, Alma. 4:04 p.m., fraud or forgery complaint, 200 Block, E. Main St., Mondovi. 6:22 p.m., domestic dispute reported, S. Main St., Fountain City. 8:04 p.m., suspicious activity reported, L. Winsand Road, town of Dover. 11:26 p.m. to midnight, security door checks, Mondovi.

April 6: 4:14 a.m., ambulance requested, 500 Block, E. Water St., Mondovi. 5:16 a.m., accident, Elmer's Road, Fountain City. 7:52 a.m., vandalism, S. State St./W. Hudson St., Mondovi. 7:59 a.m., suspicious activity reported, 100 Block, N. Washington St., Mondovi. 9:02 a.m., drugs/controlled substance, County B, town of Canton. 9:08 a.m., check welfare of person, Highway 35, town of Nelson. 9:21 a.m., fraud or forgery complaint, North St., Fountain City.

Unemployment applications spike amid coronavirus, DWD says

The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) on Thursday, April 9, released the total number of new applications, weekly claims, and amount distributed for unemployment benefits for the time period of March 15 to April 6, 2020.

For that time period, the total number of new applications submitted for unemployment benefits was 313,068, with weekly claims reaching 589,616. The total amount in unemployment benefits distributed equaled \$68,759,104.

By comparison, during the same period in 2019, the total number of new applications paled in comparison, 17,748, with weekly claims of 155,148. The total amount of unemployment benefits during this period was \$39,597,111.

"The fact that initial claims ballooned by more than 1,600 percent illustrates the unprecedented nature of this pandemic and its effect on our economy," Secretary Caleb Frostman commented in a DWD press release. "The IT infrastructure of the UI division was not adequately modernized coming out of the Great Recession, which has forced DWD's staff to work overtime, nights, and weekends to process unemployment claims to support out-of-work Wisconsinites. We are confident that our accelerated and expanded hiring, along with real-time telecom and IT improvements will help alleviate claimant backlogs.

Nevertheless, we understand how important it is to get these payments out as quickly as possible, and we are doing everything we can to get people the help they need."

To handle the record volume of unemployment claims, DWD has taken extensive internal measures to meet the demand.

DWD staffing measures have included over 150 unemployment insurance division's (UI) employees working overtime; transferring and training 35 employees from another DWD division to assist the UI call center, with an additional 45 being trained for part-time assistance; recruiting to hire 36 claim specialists; hiring up to 25 positions to work on manual tasks that need to be performed on a claim and 60 limited-term employees to process paperwork; assigned eight employees to make outgoing calls to applicants whose online applications required contact with DWD staff; successfully recruited UI retirees to return to DWD to help as limited-term employees.

Online claimants who were previously instructed to call DWD now receive a message that a claims specialist will call them back within five business days to assist them in completing their initial claim. These claim specialists have cleared more than 1,000 claims since this began on March 27.

DWD IT measures: extended allowable time to complete application filing

to 28 days (was 14 days); updating FAQs on a consistent basis; acquired additional trunk to allow for greater call inbound and outbound center functionality during excessive call periods; updated videos on "How to Apply for Unemployment," "How to File Weekly Claims," and "How to Create a Username and Password."; claimants can change their last name using claimant portal.

On top of the measures in additional staffing and technology, DWD is developing the application for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), with the goal of taking the first applications the week of April 21, 2020. PUA was established by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act that was signed into law on March 27, 2020. It temporarily expands UI eligibility to those who are otherwise ineligible for state UI benefits, including those who are self-employed, free lancers, independent contractors, and part-time workers impacted by COVID-19. Workers will be eligible for retroactive benefits (as far back as Feb. 2, 2020) and can receive benefits for up to 39 weeks.

The CARES Act also created the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) program, which provides an additional \$600 per week through July 31, 2020, to those who are eligible for UI and PUA benefits. Wisconsin hopes to be ready to start making these payments the week of April 26, 2020.

Corn, soybean 2020 plantings forecast Wisconsin dairy farm statistics posted

Brommerich News

Farmer producers surveyed by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture said they intend to plant 97 million acres of corn in 2020, up 8 percent from 2019.

Corn plantings in Arizona, Idaho, Nevada and Oregon were expected to be the largest on record, according to USDA reports.

Soybean planting was expected to increase 10 percent to 83.5 million acres, which would rank as the 3rd largest soybean crop on record.

The crop planting numbers were based on surveys of 80,000 farm operators across the U.S. in March.

Planting of wheat crops was predicted at 44.7 million acres, which would be the lowest number of acres in wheat since 1919, USDA said. Cotton was forecast at 13.7 million acres, about the same as 2019.

U.S. corn stocks were at 7.95 billion bushels, down 8 percent from March of 2019, with on-farm corn stock storage 13 percent below a year ago.

There were 2.25 billion bushels of soybean stored, down 17 percent from March of 2019. On-farm soybean storage was down 20 percent from a year ago.

The U.S. hog inventory was 4 percent higher than a year ago. USDA figured it at 77.6 million hogs and pigs in early March.

Wisconsin's cheese market produced 260.5 million pounds in February, according to most recent USDA reports. California was around 200 million pounds. Total U.S. cheese production in February was figured at 1.02 billion pounds.

The all-milk dairy price for February in Wisconsin was \$19.10 per hundredweight, according to USDA. The all-class milk price was down 30 cents.

The average U.S. all milk price for February

was \$18.90, USDA said, down 70 cents. All of the major dairy states had lower milk prices.

Buffalo County had 87 licensed dairy herds on April 1st. There were 109 herds in Trempealeau County, and 41 in Pepin County.

Wisconsin had 7,198 total dairy herds on April 1st, including 729 in Clark County, 433 in Marathon County, 316 in Grant County and 264 in Vernon County.

Spring turkey hunting season opens April 15th

Brommerich News

Turkey hunters are reminded to observe minimum 6-foot social distancing from others when out in the woods for the spring hunting season opening on April 15th.

Wisconsin's 'safer at home' order said outdoor activity with social distancing was acceptable, which includes hunting.

The DNR said turkey hunting was designed to minimize hunter contact and was normally by its nature a solitary outdoor activity.

In addition, turkey hunting is permitted by time periods, which spreads people out by different times and zones.

DNR Secretary Preston Cole said hunting and fishing was a tradition in Wis-

consin and provided opportunity for people to interact with nature.

"It's these traditions that allow us to have a moment of normalcy during this extraordinary time," Cole said.

The state is divided into seven management zones for turkey hunting. The turkey season runs from April 15th to May 26th, divided into 6 periods, each period running 7 days.

Wisconsin's spring turkey hunting season usually results in around 40,000 birds taken. There were 38,556 gobblers bagged in the 2019 spring season.

The 2019 spring turkey harvest success rate among hunters was 18.1 percent. Success rates during the 1st hunting period in April averaged 24 percent last year.

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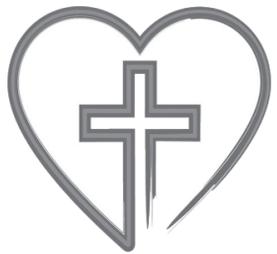
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Church Directory

SACRED HEART OF JESUS PARISH - MONDOVI Father Emmanuel Asamoah-Bekoe No Services until further notice	CHURCH LCMS 93 at HH, south of Eau Claire No Services until further notice	5 miles E. Gilmanton, off Cty. BB, on Evanger Rd. LOOKOUT LUTHERAN CHURCH 4 miles E. of Gilmanton on State Highway 121 James Peterson, Pastor No Service the Month of April
ST. MARY'S ASSUMPTION PARISH - DURAND Father Emmanuel Asamoah-Bekoe No Services until further notice	CENTRAL LUTHERAN Pastor Rolf Morck Maundy Thursday 4/9 7:00pm Worship/Livestream Good Friday 4/10 1:30 pm Ecumenical Worship/Livestream Easter Sunday 4/12 9:00 am Worsdhip/Lives-tream Monday 4/13 6:00 pm Council Meeting/ Zoom Wednesday 4/15 6:00 pm Worship/Lives-tream 7:00 pm Confirmation/ Livestream	LYSTER LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA) Jct. Co. Roads D & F, Nelson WI Pastor Michael Vetsch 715-673-4991 http://lysterchurch.wordpress.com No Services until further notice
HOLY ROSARY PARISH LIMA Father Emmanuel Asamoah-Bekoe No Services until further notice	MODENA LUTHERAN Loren Teig, Lay Minister No Services until further notice	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH ROCK FALLS Father Timothy Welles 715-875-4539 No Services until further notice
ELEVA-STRUM CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE US Hwy. 10 - (1 mile west of Strum) Sam Starnes, Pastor No Services until further notice	ROCK FALLS BAPTIST CHURCH Hwy. 85, Rock Falls Dan Whitehead, Pastor No Services until further notice	ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH Whitehall, WI Rev. Cory Stoutner No Services until further notice
ROCK CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH 3 miles west of Rock Falls Pastor Paul Oppedahl 715-875-4571 No Services until further notice	DRAMMEN LUTHERAN Michael Isaacson, SAM No Services until further notice	HARVESTIME CHURCH 970 Oak St., Mondovi Pastor Adam Norlander 715-834-4011 No Services until further notice
ZION LUTHERAN	EVANGER LUTHERAN	Thursdays: Pastor office hours

8am-noon All in person services cancelled until further notice Follow Central Lutheran's church service on their website centralmondovi.org	Sunday - 10:30 am Worship Service Live Streamed	GILMANTON UMC Pastor Joeng Lee Sunday - 10:30 am Worship Service Live Streamed
PLEASANT VALLEY LUTHERAN Rev. Jon Paul Dragseth, Pastor No Services until further notice	PRINCE OF PEACE COVENANT CHURCH Rev. Ileana Garcia-Soto, Pastor 6 1/2 miles N. on Hwy. 37 No Services until further notice	ELEVA LUTHERAN Rev. Bob Castro, Pastor No Services until further notice
TRINITY OF NORDEN GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN PARISH Pastor Kermit Solem No Services until further notice	ZION LUTHERAN 264 E. Main St., Mondovi Pastor Scott Johnson All Services are suspended until further notice.	FRIENDSHIP CHURCH Dan Norman, Pastor 715-926-5030 No Services until further notice
TRINITY LUTHERAN GILMANTON Pastor Paul Woebeking No Service until further notice	OUR SAVIOR'S UMC osumcmundovi@gmail.com Pastor Joeng Lee	IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Strum, WI 54770 Pastor Valerian Ahles No Services until further notice
		ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CANTON Rev. Dan Pfaffe No Services until further notice
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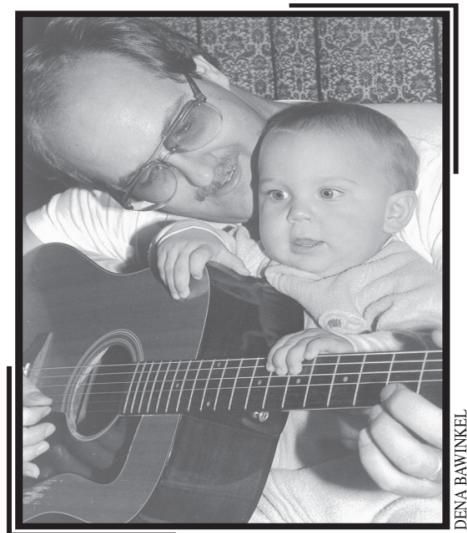
Worship with us

Spiritual Perspective

Woman marries more money than she could earn

A rather awkward bachelor, realizing he would inherit a fortune when his elderly father died, decided he needed to find a wife to share his riches with. It wasn't long before he spotted a likely prospect at a business meeting—a woman so beautiful she took his breath away. He walked right up to her and tried to start up a conversation. "I may not look like much," he said, "but within a couple of years my father will die and I'll inherit \$500 million." Impressed, the woman asked for his business card, and, three days later, she became his stepmother. That old joke has been making its rounds for years and years, probably because people are drawn to unexpected twists like that. When the unexpected happens in real life, it's often not much fun. Sometimes, however, it's for the best. Certainly, the bachelor in that joke was spared an unhappy marriage. I was thinking the other day about a young man who was booted out the synagogue back in the day when Jesus was engaged in His public ministry. The young man had been blind, but Jesus healed him. The religious leaders made the absurd accusation to this young man that Jesus was a sinner. But the young man, convinced that Jesus is the Son of God, had an incredible comeback to that. "Whether He is a sinner or not, I don't know," the young man said. "This I know: I was blind but now I see." Angered by the young man's boldness, the religious leaders booted him out of the synagogue. In our modern world, we might say his membership privileges were revoked. I can't help but believe that was the best thing that could have happened to the young man. By being thrown out of the synagogue, he avoided being exposed to the dangerous lie that Jesus isn't the Son of God. No one should sit under that kind of teaching, then or now. I can only imagine the kinds of unexpected twists life has thrown at you. There have been disappointments aplenty for all of us when things didn't work out like we had hoped. When the unexpected and unwelcome twists come our way, we can count on this: "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28). No doubt, it would have been a very dark day for the bachelor in the opening joke when a lady he wanted to marry turned out to be a gold digger who rushed out and married his father instead. It may have been an unexpected twist, but it was best for that bachelor. And, so it is for us when life throws unexpected twists at us—even when it doesn't seem like it. Roger Alford offers words of encouragement to residents of America's heartland. Reach him at rogeralford1@gmail.com

Turnabout



DENA BAWINKEL

If the Lord takes pleasure in the people He created, what should our response be?

How about taking pleasure in a God who loves us?
How about rejoicing and lifting our voices in thanksgiving for the gift of life?

Praise God this week in church.

Praise the Lord. Psalm 149

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 Ephesians 1:11-23 Luke 6:20-31

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PLAINVIEW - ELGIN-MILLVILLE COMMUNITY School is looking for: High School Special Education Paraprofessional 2020-2021 School Year. To apply please go to our website: www.pem.k12.mn.us, click on "employment opportunities" and apply through Appli-Track. For questions, please contact Nate Walbruch at 507-534-3128 or nwalbruch@isd2899.k12.mn.us. A15/2p

SMALL LOCAL BUSINESS seeking truck driver with Class B license, tanker endorsement, and clean driving record. Full or part-time/flexible hours home every night. Competitive wages. Call 507-273-8990. A14/3p

FOR RENT

FOR RENT: BUFFALO COUNTY HOUSING INC. has housing for persons age 62 years or older, handicapped or disabled persons in Alma, Cochrane, Nelson and Mondovi. Rent is based on 30% of adjusted income. Rental assistance may be available for qualified applicants. Current income restrictions apply. For more information on current vacancies call 608-685-3663. Buffalo County Housing Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer. Equal Housing Opportunity. R11-tf

FOR RENT: 2 BEDROOM, 1 bath apartment in Durand, available now. \$500 per month, some utilities included. Please call Colonial Square Realty at 715-235-6111. SSTF 2020

ST. CHARLES: 3 BEDROOM, upstairs apartment. Off street parking. Contact 507-269-6273. A15/3sc.

NEW HIGHEM TOWNHOME. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage in St. Charles MN. \$1600/mo. No pets, non-smoker, no kids, handy cap accessible. 507-273-9920. A47/UFNSC

FOR RENT: AFFORDABLE 2BR & 3BR in Pepin. Spacious w/rent based on 30% of income! Laundry on-site and off-street parking. Call 800-944-4866 Ext. 1124. Horizon Management Group is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Equal Housing Opportunity. SSTF 2020

HOUSE FOR RENT: 1 BEDROOM house in Cochrane, WI, appliances, \$500/mo., security deposit required. No pets. No smoking. 763-544-4039. R16-tf

FOR RENT: LOCATED IN INDUSTRIAL Court of Wabasha. 1- 12'x12' overhead door, 1- 9'x12' overhead door with 1/2 bath plus office space. City water, sewer, insulated building. Available soon. Over 600 sf. Call 651-565-4650. W37665

BUFFALO CITY STORAGE: UNITS FOR RENT. Several sizes. 608-685-4972. R16-tf

FOR RENT: PEPIN APT.: 2 BEDROOM \$670/month. Please contact Julie 715-559-9676/juliem@constructioninstall.com

FOR RENT: PEPIN COUNTY HOUSING Authority Available now. One and two bedroom apartments -Durand, Arkansaw & Pepin. For qualifying Seniors 62 years and over or Disabled/Handicapped Persons. One story building with Private Entry and Patio, coin laundry and

FOR RENT

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PREMIERE SELF STORAGE units for rent. Several sizes. Call 608-248-2489 or 920-427-7787. R16-tf

PEPIN SELF STORAGE - INSIDE AND Outside fenced-in storage units. County Road N, Pepin. Danny & Kathy Hanson. 608-685-3623. W35805

FOR RENT LARGE 1 bdrm in Alma, WI on 2nd floor of duplex. Nice clean unit, economical to heat, Mississippi River view. \$475.00 per month. Call 507-450-9842 or 507-450-0801.

FOR SALE

HOUSE FOR SALE: 617 RUSTIC LANE, Wabasha. Fixer-upper being sold 'as is'. Has unattached garage and 2 sheds. 651-564-0660 W37623

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER: 280 Cedar Lane, Lewiston, MN. 4 bedrooms: split foyer, 1.5 bath and 2 car attached garage. Call (507)523-2394 for appointment. A14/3sc.

FOR SALE: LARGE ROUND BALES, 5x6 each, hay, corn stalks, bean stalks. Call Clarence 715-495-0771

FOR SALE: 29' KELLER extension ladder, heavy duty, \$135 (new \$365) 608-685-4119

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HONEY BEES: 5 FRAME nues still available early May. Italian-Carniolan cross. Nues come with laying queen, 3 frames brood and feed. State inspected. 1-49 \$125.00, 50 or more \$110.00. Questions and orders write to Jonas Stoltz-felley JR. S-846 Sampson Valley Road Mondovi, WI 54755

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FOR SALE: REGISTERED HOLSTEIN bulls. Call Chuck Raethke, 715-495-1186. SSTF 2020

FOR SALE: 2008 VOLKSWAGEN Passat LX, 4 door sedan, 125,000 miles, turbo engine, front wheel drive, leather interior and sunroof. \$3,750. 608-248-2545. R28-2

NOTICES

WABASHA/KELLOGG GROUP OF ALCOHOLICS Anonymous meets every Monday at 7 PM and Thursday at 7 PM and every Saturday at 10 AM at the DAC Building, 611 Broadway, Wabasha. Entrance on Milligan Ave. W35808

CELEBRATE RECOVERY IS A CHRISTIAN 12-step program open to anyone who wants freedom from life's hurts, habits and hang-ups. The group meets on Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 905 Hiawatha Dr. E. in Wabasha. Men contact Jared

NOTICES

with questions at 612-979-5940. Women contact Wendy at 651-366-3688 W37603

LAKE CITY NA GROUP: Meets every Monday @ 7 pm. United Methodist Church, 213 N. Oak St., Lake City (use parking lot entrance at the rear of the building, left side). If you think you have a drug problem - We can help!! W33920

LAKE CITY AL-ANON FAMILY Group, Thursdays at 7pm, 213 N. Oak St., Lake City. Help for families and friends of alcoholics. W35810

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETS AT the United Church of Christ (church under the bridge) Wed. at 7:00 pm. Beginner/Informational meetings are the first Monday of the month. Call Joe A. for more info. 1-651-564-0988 W35809

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SERVICES

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WANTED

LOOKING FOR HELP TO SANDBLAST/paint the archway of Greenfield Cemetery in Kellogg. If interested please call 507-259-2631. A15/3p

WANTED IN BUFFALO COUNTY deer hunting lease within 30 minutes drive of Cochrane, WI. No outfitting. Pay top dollar - cash. 414-659-0402. R16tf

BUYING OLD ADVERTISING ITEMS- clocks, signs, thermometers, gas, oil, soda, beer items. Call Leo 715-559-8180 sstf

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Answers from pg. 10

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Scott Weiss

PLEASE NOTE:

All classified ads are to be submitted prior to the desired date of publication. Submissions received after this time will be published the following week.

Thank You

Hansen's Market IGA

FRESH for YOU!



11 Stem Bouquet of the Week Think Spring
\$8.98

PRICES EFFECTIVE: MONDAY - SUNDAY, APR. 13 - 19, 2020

Sweet Street



Sweet 'n Juicy Strawberries
16 Oz.

2/\$4



Angel Food Cake
8 Oz.

\$1.98



Dean's Ice Cream
Assorted Varieties
48 Oz.

2/\$5



Kemp's Ice Cream Bars
Assorted Varieties
12 Ct.

2/\$6



Popsicle or Fudgesicle Bars
Assorted Varieties
18 Ct.

3/\$10



Black Angus USDA Choice Burgundy Pepper Spoon Roast

\$3.98
Lb.



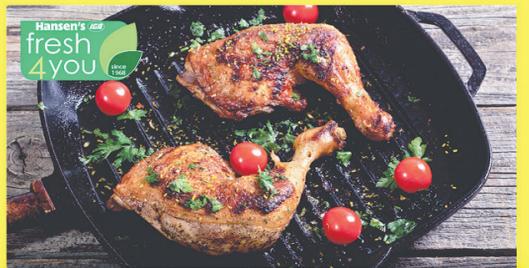
Super Sweet Bi-Color Sweet Corn

10/\$4



Sweet Juicy Watermelon

\$4.98
Ea.



Market Fresh Chicken Leg Quarters

88¢
Lb.



Ball Park Meat Franks
Assorted Varieties
14-15 Oz.

2/\$4



Best Choice Baked Beans
28 Oz.

2/\$3



Hillshire Farm Smoked Sausage
Selected Varieties
13-14 Oz.

2/\$5



Deli Sliced Tamper Proof Package Lunch Meats
Oven Roasted Turkey, Roast Beef & Virginia Ham

20% OFF



Family Servings, Heat 'N Eat Ready Homestyle Macaroni & Cheese or Creamy Mashed Potatoes
24 Oz., Weighed at \$2.66 Lb.

\$3.99



Coca Cola Products
Assorted Varieties
6 Pk./1.5 Liter Bottles

3/\$9



Budweiser, Miller Lite or Coors Light Family Pack
24 Pk./12 Oz. Cans
Selected Varieties

\$15.49
After \$3 clipless coupon
Elroy \$15.99



VISIT US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

STAY CONNECTED, SIGN UP FOR HANSEN'S IGA MARKET NEWSLETTER AT HANSENSIGA.COM TO RECEIVE THE LATEST SALE INFO.

STORE HOURS ARE LIMITED AT THIS TIME. CURRENT HOURS ARE POSTED AT HANSENSIGA.COM

Courtesy Hour

WE ASK THAT SHOPPERS TO RESERVE OUR FIRST HOUR OF SERVICE FOR THOSE WHO ARE AT HIGHER RISK.

Thank You to Our Shoppers

FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.