Mostly opposed
Large crowd turns out at hearing on proposed RV campground PAGE 3

Kids trio wields knife in robbery attempt
Juvenile males, ages 16, 13 and 12, arrive at Luck store on snowmobile PAGE 3

Lakeshore rentals a growing trend
County committee raises questions of regulatory oversight PAGE 7

SCF school auditorium possibility revealed
Presentation reveals possible price tags, also PAGE 6

CHEERS FROM THE SOUTH POLE
The St. Croix Falls Saints were represented at the South Pole this year. Local resident Kevin Miner, who works in Antarctica every winter, demonstrated Saints Pride at the Pole. See story on back page. - Photo submitted

Anton qualifies for powerlifting nationals PAGE 17

The Inter-County Leader is a cooperative-owned newspaper serving NW Wisconsin
Power outage - This brutal winter weather continues to create havoc. A broken power pole in the town of Jackson in Burnett County on Sunday, March 3, at 5 a.m. affected 400 residents on the Folk-Burnett Electric circuit. Power was restored by 10 a.m. - Special photo

Frederic Arts recently made a donation of $500 to the Frederic Schools art department. Shown presenting the check to K-12 art teacher Carrie Pettersen are (L to R): Frederic Arts Board President Tammy Seebach, Petersen, Frederic Arts class coordinator Nancy Buley; and Frederic Arts treasurer Lloyd Wilson. Petersen was appreciative of the donation and has not yet decided how to best use the additional funds to enrich the art curriculum. The board was impressed with the variety of student art they viewed during their visit to the school, and Frederic Arts will continue to seek out partnership opportunities with the Frederic Schools to encourage art appreciation in our youth. - Photo submitted

“Michael Perry: How Ya Doin’” is a new television special with an old twist. In the new program, which premiered this winter on Wisconsin Public Television, celebrated Wisconsin author and humorist Michael Perry looks back on his “Clodhopper” tales of life in Wisconsin with an eye toward the ways his stories of the past connect us to the future. Checking in from north of Wisconsin’s Hwy. 64, Perry reflects on the people and places that shaped his life, while sharing stories relatable to every Wisconsinite. He muses on woodpiles and farm auctions, chicken sheds and picking rocks. And, of course, tractors. More information at wpt.org. - Photo submitted

Ice Caves - There’s a lot of ice on Lake Superior but concerns over the quality of the ice may prevent the public from seeing the ice caves at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore this winter. The National Park Service said that ice along the length of the caves is “really fractured” and rough, according to a story by the Associated Press. The snow is insulating the ice, which results in soft, porous and slushy ice. The ice caves were last accessible to the public in 2014 and 2015. Warm weather during the winter since then prevented the formation of ice thick enough to support thousands of visitors. - Photo by Larry Samson

A Hazelden doctor will present a talk on addiction issues affecting the greater St. Croix Valley region at Conversations of the Valley, a luncheon speaker series hosted by the St. Croix Valley Foundation with sponsorship from First State Bank and Trust. “Addiction in the St. Croix Valley” will be held Wednesday, March 27, at the Lake Elmo Inn Event Center, with lunch at 11:30 a.m. and the speaker from noon to 1 p.m. Limited walk-ins are available based on space/lunch availability. Tickets may be reserved online at scvfoundation.org. Main speaker Dr. Stephen Delisi is professor of education solutions at Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation and assistant professor with the Hazelden Betty Ford Graduate School of Addiction Studies. Delisi will share information on addiction as disease and the biology behind it. He will discuss the primary drugs of addiction affecting the St. Croix Valley and delve into how stigma can become a barrier to treatment. Delisi will leave attendees with information on resources available to all. Conversations of the Valley is a four-speaker series guided by the 2018-2019 theme, Talking About Tough Issues. The mission of the St. Croix Valley Foundation is to enhance the quality of life in the St. Croix Valley by encouraging charitable giving, connecting people and programs and encouraging collaboration. SCVF works with 10 affiliated community foundations in Prescott, River Falls, Hudson, Somerset, New Richmond, Amery, and the Northwest Alliance in Wisconsin; and the Lower St. Croix Valley, Stillwater area and Chisago Lakes area in Minnesota.
Committee to continue CUP hearing

Becky Strabel | Staff writer

SIREN - It was standing room only at the Burnett County Government Center on Tuesday, March 5, as an estimated 150 people attended the 9 a.m. land use and information committee meeting for the public hearing.

The hot topic was a conditional use permit for the Wood Lake Camp and RV, LLC, to convert the former Bible camp property into a commercial campground. The property is on Big Wood Lake in rural Grantsburg and would most likely end up back on the town and county tax rolls after being exempt for years due to its religious affiliation.

The public hearing portion of the meeting regarding this agenda item included well over two dozen speakers taking to the microphone in 3-minute intervals. Only a couple of the speakers braved the crowd to show support of the permit.

After everyone was allowed their say, committee Chairman Norm Bickford stated that he felt that he couldn’t make a conscious decision today to approve or deny the request. He proposed that the public hearing should be continued to answers to the environmental concerns and issues presented.

Jeff Sventek, who applied for the application to hold a public hearing on behalf of the owners of Wood Lake Camp and RV, LLC, stated following public comment that the owners would stay within guidelines as there would be no benefit in ruining the camp or the grounds and lake for them or their neighbors.

Eddie Emerson | Staff writer

POLK COUNTY - Five DNR staff members, including Ben Berger, director of the Wisconsin State Parks System, met in Eau Claire with six Polk County employees to discuss the upcoming meeting to discuss trail master plan issues related to the Stower Seven Lakes Trail. The meeting, held Friday, Feb. 15, resulted in Polk County rescinding its previous action recommending motorized uses on the current silent-sport SSLT.

County Supervisor Chris Nelson and Corporation Counsel Maia Malone, two of the six Polk County representatives at the meeting, held Friday, Feb. 15, resulted in Polk County rescinding its previous action recommending motorized uses on the current silent-sport SSLT.

County Supervisor Chris Nelson and Corporation Counsel Maia Malone, two of the six Polk County representatives at the Friday, Feb. 15, DNR meeting, provided an update to the environmental services committee on Wednesday, Feb. 27.

The SSLT is a 14-mile-long Soo Line rail-trail conversion project that the DNR has supported for years, Nelson said. The project was named for the railroad that owned it and is part of the former Standard Oil properties.

Nelson, who is chair of the Polk County environmental services committee, said that the DNR has been encouraging Polk County to develop a plan that the county is now working on.

The county has reportedly hired out a consultant to work directly with the Federal Highway Administration regarding possible repayment of resurfacing grant dollars that may be triggered if the SSLT is to become motorized.

Also at the Wednesday, Feb. 27, environmental services committee meeting, Olson proposed opening county forestland to silent sports enthusiasts. “Over the last several months we have heard the need for more silent sports opportunity on the Stower and Candy and the large economic impact silent sports has on our county. While many believe we have not been hearing this need, I have,” Olson said. “I have a vision where silent sports are expanded in our county to be as big as motorized sports. We have 17,000 acres of county land. Instead of a few miles of silent sport trails let’s have up to hundreds of miles. With the help of volunteers from our silent sports and friends groups there is unlimited potential. Let’s make Polk County the destination point for all trail users, both silent and motorized,” Olson said.

Kids trio wields knife in armed robbery attempt

Eddie Emerson | Staff writer

LUCK - Details remain sketchy at press time about an apparent armed robbery at a Luck convenience store over the weekend. The attempt was allegedly made by three juvenile males with a knife, and apparently only failed because of a citizen intervention.

According to press release from Polk County Sheriff Brent Waak, the incident took place on Sunday, March 3, at around 4:36 p.m., and started when three juvenile males entered the Luck Minut Mart store at 106 Hwy. 35.

The three juveniles allegedly attempted to rob the clerk at knifepoint.

They were 16, 13 and 12 years old, and had arrived on at least two snowmobiles, according to the sheriff.

However, an unnamed citizen intervened and disrupted the robbery attempt, leading to the apprehension of the three suspects. Because of the ages of the suspects, the details remain clouded in child protection issues, although we know that all three juveniles were taken into custody after their apprehension.

According to the authorities, the 16-year-old was taken to a secure detention facility in Eau Claire, while the other two juveniles were released to guardians. No further information is currently available, and any future court hearings are closed to the public and the press.

The PCSO and the Luck Police Department are conducting the investigation.

County looks to hire consultant to finesse SSLT master plan

Eddie Emerson | Staff writer

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Citizen intervenes at Luck convenience store after suspects arrive on snowmobile

Greg Marsten | Staff writer

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The PCSO and the Luck Police Department are conducting the investigation.
A difficult and lonely row to hoe alone

It was another disparaging article about the loss of family farms. “All of our neighbors are done,” Sue Spaulding told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. Despite low dairy prices, she and her husband, Chuck, are “solidifying on,” the article noted, milking about 60 cows on their 300-acre farm near Shell Lake - the farm Chuck bought when he was just 17.

The Spauldings are among many still trying to make a family farm work. It’s certainly not a news flash that the landscape of farming in Wisconsin has changed dramatically over the past 20 years. But the situation appears to have gotten brutal in recent years, particularly with the factor of overproduction which lowers prices for dairy products and hurts the farmer’s bottom line. It’s a complicated issue and formula. And the biggest players in the dairy industry seem to benefit from overproduction while the farmer alone suffers.

Consumer trends have also made an impact - sales of milk as a beverage have been declining for years and the production of soymilk and almond milk - not really milk at all, dairy farmers note - isn’t just a fad.

Organic farming might also be classified under consumer trends.

Several years ago during a family gathering in Lafarge, Wisconsin, catching up with cousins I had not kept close contact with, I noticed they were part of a dairy cooperative in that small community (700-plus population). It turns out one of my cousins, Jerome, was one of the true-to-life “Mad Men” of sorts who began his career as an executive for Sinclair Oil in the 1960s, working in a high-rise in Rockefeller Center. He walked away from that job to raise his family in the country. As he put it, he wanted to get back to the land and ... set his soul free. And that he put it, he wanted to get back to the country in general - to raise his family in the country. As he put it, he wanted to get back to the land and family and noted the cooperative felt like a victory, Jerome said. Nearly 2,000 farms are now part of Organic Valley, many of them Amish. The cooperative now exists not just in southwestern Wisconsin but in Australia, England and Canada. Their belief in supporting family-size farms, coupled with producing organic foods, has created a utopia of sorts where the rate of family members wanting to leave those farms for greener pastures - one of the trends in the farming community in general - is quite low.

Jerome noted the original founders didn’t necessarily gravitate to becoming a cooperative in the beginning, as they took note of the failure of some ag cooperatives in the Upper Midwest. But they didn’t want to be a corporation. So they settled for a cooperative based on different models of cooperatives from around the world. Today, Organic Valley may be one of the more successful cooperatives - let alone ag cooperatives - in the world.

Meanwhile the future for independent dairy farmers remains questionable. Even the actual numbers as to how many farms are in operation are elusive. With help from Kevin Schoes sow, of the University of Wisconsin – Extension, we were able to track down the number of herds and cows in our three-county area and those figures do, indeed, show the dramatic fall over a 20-year period:

1997
Washington County: 64 herds, 3,300 cows.
Burnett: 82 herds, 3,700 cows.
Polk: 360 herds, 21,500 cows.

2017
Washington County: 16 herds, 2,500 cows.
Burnett County: 25 herds, 3,500 cows.
Polk County: 113 herds, 14,500 cows.

There are meetings being held across Wisconsin by farm groups hoping to find some answers to giving farmers a fair living - how farmers, processors and the government could work together for one common good - and looking at other models of farm operations such as the Canadian supply-management system. Why should we nonfarmers care about any of this?

Randy Wokatsch, a fourth-generation farmer from Marathon, Wisconsin, recently wrote to agupdate.com and explained why.

“What happens when the infrastructure supporting smaller farms fails, i.e., milk pickup and veterinary services? For those who aren’t in the dairy industry, what happens will also affect them. Do you want to drive past abandoned small- and medium-sized formerly family-run dairy farms and then the occasional megafarm? Do you want the deterioration of the small towns supported by smaller farmers like myself to continue? How do you suppose the demise of those idyllic farms will affect our tourism industry? How will having mostly large farms affect our ground water, surface water, roads and the environment at-large?”

Those questions may be answered in years to come. - Gary King
Consolidation ... not $25 million in debt

Am I the only person who thinks it is ludicrous that three school districts, with fewer than 500 students in all, are being asked for a total of $25 million in referendum aid? None of these schools have 500 students in total. I think the cart has been put before the horse in these districts. In April the public should be voting on whether or not to tax the schools, not $25 million in debt.

Just because some school board members don’t even want to talk about it does not mean it should be taken off the table as an option.

Dianna Edging
Frederic

What’s next? Euthanasia of elderly?

Now that Vermont, Rhode Island, New York and Virginia have decided infanticide is OK, it is just a matter of time for Gov. “tawdry-Tony” Evers and Minnesota’s Gov. Tim Walz to get them approved in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Dave Wilhelmy
Stem

Our next opportunity

This is on us. American voters have become lazy. They have been intentionally misled and have a free ride, while our local and state control legislators. Voters are busy trying to make ends meet and don’t seem to have spare time to investigate candidates. That’s understandable; workers have not seen a real raise, allowing for inflation since the 1960s. They are frustrated by the intrusion of electioneering and they ultimately tune out.

The voters are needed now. Will they stand up, educate themselves, and step into store checkout to save their country and the very earth that houses them?

Saturday, March 2, our current president Inputs needed for tourist rooming house ordinance changes

The Polk County Environmental Services committee is considering changes to the tourist rooming house ordinance. It is my understanding that the committee has heard legitimate complaints from neighbors of some tourist rooming houses. At their Feb. 27 meeting, the committee listened to neighbors of tourist rooming houses own their experiences with the undesirable characteristics of their neighbors. The committee’s goal is to come up with a plan to expand hours at tourist rooming houses and between the Legislature and the governor’s office were held by different parties or factions. This interaction is important to change anybody’s mind or finding solutions with owners, county employees, county board members and county supervisor Chris Nelson. I’ve been impressed by the willingness of all to be open to discussion and change during this process.

Based on these conversations, current regulations and my understanding of the complaints of the neighbors, five components of a revised ordinance seem necessary: 1) verifiable and enforceable conditions; 2) penalties that are sufficient to deter violation of conditions; 3) establishment of the number of overnight guests based on an established measure of housing capacity; 4) a cap on the number of overnight guests; and 5) allowance of a conditional use permit for properties that have a capacity for overnight guests. The cap and the allowance for conditional use permits are both critical for protecting the rights of neighbors of tourism businesses. A conditional use permit would require notification of neighbors of the property application and would go through a case-by-case assessment that considers the unique aspects of each property such as zoning capacity, proximity to public waters and proximity to neighbors, and could include special conditions that satisfy the appropriate limits for day use guests.

I encourage the committee to review the history of complaints against tourist rooming houses in Polk County and see if a higher cap than the proposed cap of eight could serve the purpose. An increase would reduce the number of conditional use permit applications, saving unnecessary time and effort by save their country and the very earth that houses them.

I promise that as much as we are able, we are going to try to find the give-and-take topics to talk about as groups. This interaction is important to change anybody’s mind or finding solutions.

Ed Kline
Milwaukee

Letters policy

The Leader welcomes letters to the editor but reserves the right to edit or to reject letters for any reason. Letters should be no longer than 200 words. They should contain the author’s name, address and telephone number. All letters will be limited to one published letter per 30 days, with the exception of rebuttals. The number of exchanges between letter writers will be decided by the editor. Thank you to readers who have already submitted a letter. A majority of letters will be published in specially designed box ads. Letter writers are encouraged to edit the text to limit the number of letters that are submitted for publication.

Letters should provide sources when citing facts. Opinions expressed in letters are not those of the newspaper but rather those of the individual who submitted the letter. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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Letters to the editor

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SCF school auditorium possibility revealed

Presentation reveals possible price tags, also

Greg Mansten  | Staff writer
ST. CROIX FALLS - After weather forced a delay of a presentation at the previous meeting, architect John Erickson of the DSGW firm in Duluth revealed the rough details of proposed additions to the St. Croix Falls High School campus at last week's board of education and committee meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 26. He outlined some details behind a possible auditorium/fitness center and a bus garage addition. The plans have been in the works for several months, and would include a nearly 22,000-square-foot performance auditorium at a project cost of between $10 million and $11.5 million, as well as a physical fitness facility that would be approximately 6,000 square feet and comes at a projected cost of between $1.5 million and $1.83 million. The bus garage addition would add approximately four parking stalls and a possible washing bay, with a total cost of approximately $400,000-$525,000.

Erickson said the facilities can all still be pared up or down in amenities, and would be designed to incorporate their exterior and interior designs with the current campus and infrastructure, although there are some concerns that the addition could require some major electrical utility relocation, as well. The auditorium/fitness center would be located on the southwest corner of the high school and would project slightly into the parking lot and go around the building to the west.

District Administrator Mark Burandt has sought the design estimates so the school board has plenty of time to digest and review the possibilities, and prepare for any possible bonding or referendum proposals, which could not take place for over a year, at the earliest.

“More detailed designs could bring the dollar figures down, also,” Erickson said. “This is what we call a look at it top (of the list) your kids might be too old.”

Erickson also said that there would likely be some costs reductions if the projects were dovetailed together, so they could combine some efforts and the like for all three proposals.

“In anticipation for not turning a profit for some time,” Burandt said. “We would expect to have a shortfall.”

Burandt said the initial church design seems to have had a day care future in mind, and he outlined the estimated costs for some construction of a play-ground fence, sleeping facilities, some kitchen work and technology, as well as outfitting for toys and finishings.

“‘The church already has a nursery service for during services,’ Burandt said. “What's that made this place so attractive. They would assume a two-year-contract with the church, and would expect a monthly cost of about $24,000, with the highest cost going to hiring a director. “If’s a business, not a public school,” Platt clarified. “We don’t want to put anyone who is out of business, but the need is so great, it’s not an issue with competition.”

There was some discussion on the whether the school should assume they would lose money and if so, how they would adjust the plans.

“I believe in the need 100 percent,” Burandt said. “But I don’t think we should be subsidizing.”

They would still have kids care before and after school, due to busing issues, but the day care proposal will get a closer look at future board of education meetings, where they will decide if the this should move to the next step.

• The board approved the annual FFA Canada fishing trip, for up to 12 students, slated for June 9-14.
• Burandt outlined the pending strategic planning process, which will get underway very soon and create a local steering committee to create a “Living, healthy document,” meant to guide the district for up to the next five years.

“‘It's a fairly aggressive timeline,” Burandt said. “Hoping to get it done by August.”

The board took little action at their actual board meeting, but did approve several policy updates, as well as the recently discussed crisis management plan.

They also approved the retirement of Joel Prazak as the high school technology education teacher, with thanks for his years of service.
Public reprimand for former district attorney

Becky Strabel | Staff writer

BURNETT COUNTY — A public reprimand of former Burnett County District Attorney William Norine was announced in February by the Office of Lawyer Regulation in Madison, regarding his conduct while serving in office.

A reprimand is imposed only in cases of relatively minor misconduct and is only after formal charges and a hearing are held. Public notice is required to protect the public and the integrity of the court system. It is used as guidance for other lawyers and judges to avoid conduct that would require further discipline.

In another matter, Norine faced sanctions from the Burnett County District Attorney’s Office, which had a pending Burnett County criminal case. Norine told the woman that she was a “wonderful beautiful person” who inspired him. He offered to pay her phone bill if she “had time to meet.” Norine repeatedly asked her out on dates. At one point, the woman, who was represented by counsel, missed a court date and Norine contacted her through Facebook, even offering to pick her up after a bench warrant was issued. After her lunch after the matter was resolved.

In another matter, Norine had lunch with a former constituent of his office. In Facebook messages, he called the woman “Babe” and at one point paid for 3 Gigabytes of data on her cellphone. When she informed Norine that she was working on a new pending charge and an anticipated sentence of probation, Norine advised her not to worry as, “We usually take a non-criminal ordinance plea on those. No probation.” Norine also told her in a message that she was “lovely.” In each instance, violated SCR 20.17(a)(2), which provides, “Except as provided in paragraph (a) or (b), others to victims.” The representation involves a concurrent conflict of interest. A concurrent conflict of interest is a significant risk that the representation of one or more clients will be materially limited by ... a personal interest of the lawyer.

In his capacity as Burnett County district attorney, by failing to withdraw from criminal proceedings in which he had a conflict of interest stemming from his personal interest in the defendants, Norine violated “child in need of protection or services” case. In each instance, violated SCR 20.17(a)(2), which provides, “Except as stated in par. (c), a lawyer shall not represent a client or, where representation has commenced, shall withdraw from the representation of a client if (1) the representation will result in violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct or other law.”

In his capacity as Burnett County district attorney, by seeking dinner, lunch or drink dates with women facing criminal charges in Burnett County, countered with the use of personal endearments such as “Babe” or calling the women “lovely” or “beautiful” or otherwise offering or paying personal expenses and communicating legal advice, Norine, in each instance, violated SCR 20.17(a)(2), which provides, “It is professional misconduct for a lawyer to: ... (j) harass a person on account of the person’s race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, or disability.”

Norine was first licensed to practice law in Wisconsin on Dec. 1, 1992, and has no prior discipline.

William Norine

County committee raises questions of regulatory oversight

Eddie Emerson | Staff writer

POLK COUNTY — Of all the lakes in Polk County, and there are more than 400, Balsam Lake is the most noticeable. At 2,054 acres, it is the largest lake in the county and a lake that is quite visible to those who pass by. There are more than 1,200 homes with a land and improvement value of $300 million. The eroding community of Balsam Lake contains more single-family homes and residential tax value than any other village or municipality in the county. In the past month, property owners from Balsam and other lakes have appeared before government committees regarding “cases of relatively minor misconduct and only after formal charges and a hearing are held.” Public notice is required to protect the public and the integrity of the court system. It is used as guidance for other lawyers and judges to avoid conduct that would require further discipline.

Presenters gave this definition: “Resilience is the process of adapting well beyond adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats or significant sources of stress.”

Angela Frederickson and Ian Karl, both program staff members at North- west Passage, and Chris Crowe, chairman of the board of the Mental Health Task Force, made lively presentations on the impact of the workshop on resilience.

The proliferation of VRBO properties in Polk County raises a number of regulatory issues. Beyond Nelson’s proposal to notify adjacent property owners and limit the number of overnight guests, there is also the question of just what sort of location VRBOs have on new development in the downtown. What is the role of tourism in the downtown? How can it be regulated? What is the true impact on Polk County? These and related issues will likely become points of discussion in coming months.

Use social media to communicate with women who had pending court cases

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Becky Strabel | Staff writer

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William Norine
Food for the mind and the body

Frederic School Board entertains counseling, food service, FBLA presentations

Greg Marsten | Staff writer

FREDERIC — While local school districts deal with ways to adjust schedules to make up for weather-related closures and late starts, the Frederic Board of Education spent much of their regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 27, concentrating on several of the services the district offers, from food services to counseling.

Food service was part of the “spotlight on learning” portion of the meeting, while the annual counseling department report was presented for board approval.

New food service director Amy Herman outlined some of the issues they deal with, including low-sodium requirements, and the “offer versus serve” policy, where students must take at least three of five options, which include fruits, grains, meat or meat alternative, vegetables and milk.

“Students who just don’t want to eat school food,” Herman said with a shrug. “We’re trying to get them to try … we want to feed our kids!”

Herman said the students seem to like the expansion of fresh fruit options, and seem to be changing some other habits for the better.

“We’re serving more kids now than we did five or 10 years ago,” Herman said. “It really does seem to be getting better. We’re trying to get more fresh fruit and their favorites seem to be kiwis and strawberries.”

She noted several kitchen issues, including space concerns, and how that also keeps her from bringing a real salad bar to the high school lunchroom.

She also pointed out kitchen space concerns at the elementary school, which district Administrator Josh Robinson confirmed, suggesting future fixings are being discussed.

Herman noted that she has the kitchen on a sort of five-week cycle for menus, with a four-week cycle on breakfasts, which seems to work well and allows for adjustments and seeing trends.

She added that she is going to start visiting other school districts to see how they work things, as she was previously at a very large city school district, which can have different concerns, primarily in quantities and volumes.

“I like to hear feedback from everyone,” Herman said in closing.

The board also reviewed the annual report from the district’s guidance counselors, where they noted several partnerships they have solidified with a variety of agencies, from the Polk County Mental Health Task Force to the Kinship mentoring program and others, meant to focus on social and emotional services, academics, interventions and assessments.

They also noted several financial aid events, where they helped students and parents wade through applications, which were very well attended, with 18 of 23 Frederic soon-to-be graduates attending.

“That’s really good, far better than ever before,” Robinson noted.

The report also pointed out funding sources, from donations from the task force and the W.I.N.G.S. Foundation, also assisting with programming and assistance.

The counselors pointed out expanded efforts recently in trying to instill the value of giving back to the community, including at the nursing home, where they have made strong efforts in involvement and connections.

They also pointed out the challenges they all face, primarily with issues at home or in their families, often carried over to school, where some students’ lack of home nurturing care can drastically affect younger children, and manifest in attitudes and performance at school.

“We can’t necessarily fix what’s at home, but we can do things and help them here,” added Leah Lade, who is the student success coordinator.

High school Principal Erin Hansford stressed that reality of home versus school, as well.

“Students who are given love and support at home, come here to learn. When they don’t have that at home, they come here to get that support.”

-High school Principal Erin Hansford

FBLA presentation

FREDERIC — Freshman Ellie Eklof gave a weather report for the Frederic School District during a FBLA presentation. She can be seen in the foreground as well, preparing to read from a script. “There are just kids who just don’t want to eat school food … we’re trying to get them to try … we want to feed our kids!” - Food service director Amy Herman

Frederic freshman Ellie Eklof gave a weather report for the Frederic School District during a FBLA presentation. She can be seen in the foreground as well, preparing to read from a script.

“Students who are given love and support at home, come here to learn. When they don’t have that at home, they come here to get that support.” - High school Principal Erin Hansford

“There are just kids who just don’t want to eat school food … we’re trying to get them to try … we want to feed our kids!” - Food service director Amy Herman

“Students who are given love and support at home, come here to learn. When they don’t have that at home, they come here to get that support.”

-High school Principal Erin Hansford

“Students who are given love and support at home, come here to learn. When they don’t have that at home, they come here to get that support.”

-High school Principal Erin Hansford
Hotel study next step: solicit developers

The Barred Owl opens

March 14

Mary Stitrat 1 Staff writer

BALSAM LAKE – As reported last month, the results of a hotel study conducted in Balsam Lake indicate that the village can support an “upper to middle-scale hotel” and that the former highway department location would be a good site.

The next step, Trustee Rod Preble said at the Monday, March 4, meeting of the Balsam Lake Village Board, is for Michael Lindner of the firm that conducted the study to speak with potential developers to present the market study.

Preble is chair of the smart growth and economic development commission, which includes Trustees Caroline Rediske and Brandon Scheuer and which is the group leading the way with the hotel study.

Preble’s report noted that the commission met with Lindner, of Hotel Research & Development Services, Tuesday evening, Feb. 28.

“The study confirms that the market is there for a 50-room motel and pool with limited services,” said Preble.

Preble said Lindner also commented that “there is a strong market for an equal or greater value hotel than a Holiday Express.” He noted that there is a strong community for a hotel, a heavy tourist market, a “gateway” location at the entrance to the village and that developers are looking for these opportunities.

The hotel’s profile includes 50 rooms, a pool, a meeting/banquet room and a lounge/cocktail area. Total square footage is estimated at 18,000 with three growth phases.

“The motel would need 2.5 to 3 acres,” Preble reported, “which is the entire lot the village owns.

A total of 25 to 27 employees, both full- and part-time, could be employed, and the cost estimates for the development comes in at $6 million to $6.5 million.

“It’s encouraging,” said Preble. “Very encouraging.”

There will be no cost to the village for Lindner’s work in marketing the study to potential developers, he added.

Fire department

Fire Chief Brad Williamson reported that there were seven fire runs and 10 rescue runs in February.

The department’s Fire and Ice Plunge will be Saturday, March 16, he said, adding that it was postponed because there weren’t enough people to do it during Winterfest.

The chamber of commerce will be serving beer and chili at the plunge, and the board approved a beer license for the event.

At the recommendation of the public protection committee, the board approved the purchase of a $4,724 slide-in tank for the new Polaris Ranger and a portable gas monitor at approximately $2,300. Both items are included in the 2019 budget.

The board also authorized a credit card for the fire department to purchase gas for the Ranger and the generator. These items use premium gas, not available where the department usually gets its gas.

Other business

• Trustee Fayee Brittan, chair of the public protection committee, reported that the village attorney will be contacted regarding the probation period for employees. Employee handbook states six months and the police manual states 12 months.

• Police Chief Tom Thompson reported that it’s been fairly quiet so far in 2019 but officer hours are less than half of normal for this time last year.

• The board approved final payout to former police Officer Cody Thompson. Village President Ceno D’Agostino said he had consulted with police Chief Tom Thompson (no relation) and felt it was best to pay out the final week of work.

• To the applause of the those in attendance at the meeting, D’Agostino and the board thanked public works director David Patterson for his department’s work on keeping the roads plowed.

Balsam Lake Trustee Brandon Scheuer announced his resignation from the village board at its Monday, March 4, meeting, saying he has moved out of the village. Following the April 2 election, the village president will appoint someone to serve out the remaining year of Scheuer’s term. He serves on the public protection and park and recreation committees and the smart growth/economic development commission, and until a replacement is appointed a different board member will take his place on those committees if needed.

Elisabeth “Chenny” Rancone is the owner of The Barred Owl on Balsam Lake’s Main Street. The former owner of two Twin Cities restaurants said she plans to serve from-scratch food as much as possible. – File photo

Eliot Bernick's employee, with a strong background in the necessary skills and licensing for the establishment, which now holds the $10,000 reserve liquor license for the village. – Photo by Mary Stitrat

This longtime staple on Balsam Lake’s Main Street will soon be reopening with a new name, The Barred Owl, owned by Elizabeth “Chenny” Rancone. A soft opening is planned for Thursday, March 14. The village board at its Monday, March 4, meeting approved a beer and liquor license for the establishment, which now holds the $10,000 reserve liquor license for the village. – Photo by Mary Stitrat

Public works back in full force with new hire

Greg Marsten 1 Staff writer

DRESSER – The Dresser Village Board took little action at their regular monthly meeting on Monday, March 4, but they did march forth on bringing their public works department back to full force, after the recent hiring of Matthew Koch as the new Dresser Village public works employee.

Koch lives in the village and is a former Bernick’s employee, with a strong background in the necessary skills and licensing for a public works position.

He said he has lived in the village since 2006, and is also a firefighter, as is Thompson, and that he was excited to start this week. The board welcomed him with open arms, and thanked the other people who helped the village in the interim, as they were short handed for over a month.

In other board business:

• The board approved a software update for the village computers, which cost almost $550 total, but brings their

Machine up to date and will allow for more secure use.

• The board noted a complaint from

A village resident about her being charged for a new water meter, after hers froze and broke, stating it was due to the installation location that it froze, but they did allow her to stagger the payments for the $125 cost, with no labor on replacement.

• The board continued to discuss the proposed electrical service run-in to the two “Welcome to Dresser” locations on either end of the village.

North Energy has agreed to cover the costs on run-in electrical service to each location, as part of an agreement to mitigate not using utility poles for holiday decorations, but the village would need to pay the cost of meter sockets at each spot, which is estimated to cost about $2,650 total.

“It’s not budgeted, so it won’t happen for a while,” said Village President Bryan “Fatboy” Raddatz, who suggested they seek donations and possibly hold fundraisers to cover the added costs. “It would be nice to get it done before the (fall 2019) freeze-up.”

There was also discussion on maybe adding lighting for illuminating a flag at the locations.

• The board designated their Arbor Day celebration to take place at the Dresser Elementary School on April 26, with the time to be decided.

• Raddatz reminded residents to help shovel out around fire hydrants, as there are 82 such locations in the village, and the crew cannot get to them all, every time, after snowfalls. He also reminded residents that dog licenses are due at the end of the month.

• Erin Larson was appointed to the library board and the board also approved the zoning board of appeals membership renewals.

• The village board of review will be held on Monday, May 20, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

• The Inter-County Leader was approved for renewal as the official village newspaper.

Dresser Board meets new employee

Matt Koch is the new Dresser Village public works employee, and was introduced to the board at their regular monthly meeting on March 4. – Photo by Greg Marsten.

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Man accused of violent sex assault

Victim suggests he drugged her drink

Greg Marsten | Staff writer

BALSAM LAKE – A 37-year-old Amery man is facing a variety of crim-inal allegations after he was accused of violently sexually assaulting a woman he met online, after allegedly trying to drug her with a beverage. According to the probable cause report filed by the Amery Police De-partment, the in-cident is alleged to have occurred in Amery on Mon-day, Feb. 22, and into Saturday, Feb. 23, when Jornan K. Freisleis allegedly took a woman he met at an online dating site to his basement residence and sexually assaulted her.

The woman alleged that he was ex-tremely violent during the evening and especially after the sexual assault that took place at his apartment, as his young child was in the same room, only sepa-rated by a piece of fabric “wall.”

The woman claimed that shortly after arriving, Jornan became aggressive, over-bearing and loud, yelling at her when she didn’t agree with him or when she didn’t finish her lemonade, which she believed he spiked with a drug, possibly methamphetamine.

She said she did not consume any drug or alcohol before the assault. She felt “a lit-tle funny” and began to sweat profusely and started to feel the symptoms of a serious physical reaction in after she drank some of the lemonade.

That was when she said she no-ticed Jornan started to push her and not paying full attention to him and not finishing the drink.

She tried to take a shower, and tried to find a way “out of the situation,” but said Jornan continued to get loud and tried to get close to her, but she asked him to “dial it down” when he tried to get her to sit on his bed and he became angry again.

She said they got into a disagreement and bemosed into an argument with Jornan wrestling her and beginning to speak vulgur, suggestive phrases and touch her sexually.

The woman tried to craft an “exit strat-egy” and told him she wanted to tie him up to her body. He wouldn’t co-oper-ate but that he “caught on” to her plan, and instead sexually assaulted her from behind with his hand and another object.

Freisleis is also alleged to have choked and pushed her, as she refused to per-verse the sexual acts he wanted, ripping her clothing and penetrating her force-fully, according to her statements.

Suspect caught driving her stolen car

Greg Marsten | Staff writer

DRESSER – A woman is claiming that a man she says she saw when he was released from jail violently as-saulted her at her home, dragged her and assaulted her over several days before stealing her car, which is where police caught him several days later.

According to the probable cause report filed by the Dresser Police Department and released through the Polk County Sheriff’s Department, the incident is al- leged to have come to light on Feb. 25, when a contacted law enforce-

ment about an in-cident that left her with bruises and violations.

She claimed that she was try-ing to leave her former signifi-cant other, Randal Arndt, 34, Somer-set, as she picked him up from serv- ing time in jail.

She allowed him to stay at her residence briefly, as he got on his feet, but said they started fighting. She claimed he came up when her car wouldn’t start, and other things.

She said that on the previous Thurs-day, Arndt had given her a beer that she said, “tasted funny,” and made her feel very tired and unable to control her limbs. She woke up the next day to sleep and said she woke up later and asked Arndt what was in the beer as she was still feeling wobbly.

The two then got into an argument, and she said he forced her to sex and threatened and assaulted her sev-eral times, over several days. She said she felt groggy and could not stay awake over the course of the weekend, finally waking up and finding Arndt had left in her truck.

She reported the incident to police, who found Arndt driving her vehicle later that evening, and took him into custody.

Felony charge filed after allegation he choked woman for 5 minutes

Greg Marsten | Staff writer

ST. CROIX FALLS – A man with a lengthy criminal history is facing new charges for a driving incident that allegedly took place in St. Croix Falls on Saturday, March 3, downtown, when a police officer spotted a vehicle that was driving on the shoulder of the road for over an hour and then did not use a turn signal before accelerating and driv- ing away at a high rate of speed.

A police officer used lights and sirens to get the car to stop but it went over a curb in a parking lot on the way to stopping, which is when the officer noticed the driver appeared to pass something to a woman in the backseat.

Becky Strelab | Staff writer

BURNTEN COUNTY – Judge Eugene Harrington has found good cause to go beyond speedy trial time limits for a third time in the case of Wisconsin ver-sus Diego Garza, 45, after the defendant terminated three court-appointed attor-neys and dismissed another only to want that lawyer back on his case.

Garza has been staying in the Burnett County Jail since Jan. 16, 2018. Charges filed against him include felony pos-session with intent to deliver meth-amphetamine, two charges of battery to a law enforcement officer and possession of a police officer. Misdemeanor charges in-clude resisting an officer, possession of THC and drug paraphernalia.

Garza is alleged to have had more than 30 grams of methamphetamine with the estimated street value of $15,000 to $20,000.

The backseat passenger was separated and showed the officer a clear baggie of 500 grams later determined to be meth-amphetamine.

The driver was identified as Jeremiah Alling, 33, Bannow, and he was charged with felony meth possession, as a repeater.

He has a lengthy criminal history, going back over 15 years, with convic-tions on a laundry list of charges, rang-ing from fourth-degree sexual assault to multiple drug and traffic charges.

Becky Strelab | Staff writer

Sure enough, Garza kept running his attor-neys, the court has had to reschedule his 12-person trial two times so far in 2019. Both sides of the aisle have filed a number of motions in the case regard-ing evidence and suppression. And both have moved forward with witness lists and other documents to keep the case on schedule for the trial.

The judge held a telephone status conference with Garza and the special

Third exception to speedy trial limits for Garza

Because Garza keeps firing his attor-neys, the court has had to reschedule his 12-person trial two times so far in 2019. Both sides of the aisle have filed a number of motions in the case regarding evidence and suppression. And both have moved forward with witness lists and other documents to keep the case on schedule for the trial.

The judge held a telephone status conference with Garza and the special prosecutor for the county, Amber Hahn, assistant attorney general, on Thursday, Feb. 28. The purpose of the hearing was to see if Garza had found a new attorney, and to schedule another status hearing on Friday, March 15.

A hearing in January found that Garza lacks the ability to move forward on the case without proper representation.

The man later exhibited even more evidence of bruising and assault in the subsequent days.

Randal Arndt were filed on Feb. 27 by the Polk County District Attorney’s Office and include six mis-demeanor charges, all with repeater en-hancements due to past convictions. The latest charges include battery - domestic abuse, disorderly conduct - domestic abuse, stealing a vehicle, criminal dam-age to property and bail jumping.

Arndt appeared in court on Feb. 27, before Judge Jeffery Anderson, who set a $750 cash bond and strict no contact or communication order. Next court appearance is slated for Monday, March 11.

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Second degree assault and theft charges against Milltown man

Randal Arndt

Charges against Arndt were filed on Feb. 30 by the Polk County Sheriff’s Office and include hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of drug paraphernalia, as well as misde-meanor battery and misdemeanor disor-derly conduct charges, all of which carry additional abuse enhancements.

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Hemp application period closes

Sterbenz-Ryan Scholarship accepting applications through March 30

Scholarship targets students in tough circumstances

Hearing from page 2

According to the CUP application, the LLC is looking to create a recreational campground using many of the original buildings to preserve the character and history of the Wood Lake Bible Camp. The LLC is requesting approval to use land that would be updated and used as a camp or resort. An additional 27 12-foot-by-35-foot park model units, two new camp office buildings, and a rental area would be placed throughout the property for seasonal camping. The space that has been used for RVs and tents in the past would have used utilities and be used for 25 overnight camping spots.

Even with the additional park models, the property would be reducing the square footage of living space by 1,690 square feet from what is currently on the property per the applicant’s declaration. The utilities, plumbing, and septic would need to be updated, and all local, county, state, and federal requirements will be followed according to the application.

It was stated during the hearing, by Trade Lake Baptist Church’s Pastor David Towne, that the whole town had been in favor of the project and that the property had dissolved was due to the cost of maintenance and upkeep that had become too high and it wasn’t feasable to continue operating.

The acres that the application covers on the former Wisconsin Campground property in the town of Wood River, but there is additional land that is owned in the town of Trade Lake. While there are community meetings and activities in the town of Trade Lake, a portion is under the shoreline protection of the Wood Lake Marine Commission. Wood River, about 47 acres in Wood River is not zoned since the township doesn’t support county zoning. Therefore, the owners could potentially do whatever they wish on that part of the property. A clear majority were opposed to the

Online and emailed applications and renewals by program participants from last year were due by midnight on Friday, March 1. However, forms sent through the mail will be accepted as long as they are postmarked by March 1. To date, 1,405 have applied to grow industrial hemp this year. Of those, 1,244 would be first-time growers. Processor applications are at 892, with 636 first-time applicants. That compares with 247 grower licenses and 100 processor licenses issued for 2018.

“We’re asking applicants to please be patient, and to avoid calling to check on the progress of their applications,” Kuhn said. “While we are in the process of adding staff for the program to meet some of the increased demand, right now we’re working with our existing staff to process all hemp applications.

This means that it could take as much as six to eight weeks to process applications. Unless you have a felony drug conviction in your background check, you will receive your license in time to grow or process this year. If there is some other issue, such as missing information on your application or lack of payment, we will contact you. There is no need to check.”

The industrial hemp program grew out of legislation passed in late 2017 that allowed growing and processing industrial hemp in Wisconsin. The 2014 federal bill had authorized states to create pilot research programs that were administered by universities or state agriculture departments. However, industrial hemp remained on the federal list of controlled substances, because it is the same species as marijuana, but industrial hemp is bred to have very low levels of THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana and has little or no value as a drug. That is why the USDA allows states that wish on that part of the property. A clear majority were opposed to the

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LEADER LAND - "If I buy an expensive car and house, I can't afford clothes and food."

That's the lesson learned from one teenager who participated in Mad City Money, a simulation for local high school students organized by Indianhead Credit Union that teaches basic money management in a safe, fun setting.

Face it – a presentation on budgeting likely will put teens to sleep. Yet the 2-1/2-hour hands-on simulation appeals to teens and gives them a taste of the real world, complete with occupation, salary, spouse, student loan debt, credit card debt, and medical insurance payments. Teens get an instant family and then move about the stations to purchase housing, transportation, food, clothing, household necessities, day care and other needs.

What's included in the simulation? A mall for “wants,” a pushy car salesperson, a commission-based Realtor, and even the “Fickle Finger of Fate” who distributes unexpected windfalls and/or unplanned expenses. You guessed it – life happens. And in addition to several other merchants, there’s a credit union for financial services. That’s where you come in! Indianhead Credit Union is always looking for volunteers to staff the merchant stations in each simulation.

Indianhead Credit Union wants teens to be money savvy. They are in their 11th year using the Mad City Money program which is now a required financial education course in many high schools. Indianhead Credit Union is continually striving to be an innovative leader in the financial education of our youth. They need your help!

Donate your time for Mad City Money:

Tuesday, March 19, 8:45-11:30 a.m. in the small gym at Luck High School.
Wednesday, March 27, 8-1:15 a.m. in the gym at Webster High School.
Please contact Andrea Albarado: a.albarado@indianheadcu.org or 715-463-5515.

Bottom line: Teens learn that erasers and calculators are important tools for creating a monthly budget. “It’s like a puzzle,” said one teen. “You have to use all the pieces and they all have to fit.”
COMMUNITY SEWING DAY

More than two dozen hearty volunteers defied winter’s gloom as they cut, sewed and ironed colorful little dresses for needy girls in Africa and elsewhere around the world. The Community Sewing Day on Saturday, Feb. 9, was the second such event held at Peace Lutheran Church in Dresser, rallying friends and neighbors to come together for a cheery, give-back, feel-good day of fun, food and fellowship. You can learn more about the Little Dresses program online at littledressesforafrica.org. - Photo submitted

Northern legislator applauds Gov. Evers’ commitment to rural Wisconsin

MADISON – State Rep. Nick Milroy, D-South Range, praised several provisions in Gov. Tony Evers’ proposed budget for the 2019-21 biennium, and reflected on the new administration’s increased support for rural communities.

“As a staunch supporter of public education, I am pleased with Gov. Evers’ commitment to returning to two-thirds investment in our K-12 schools, as well as significant investments in our technical schools and UW System,” said Milroy. “The governor’s budget also provides resources to expand broadband, with priority given to the ‘unserved’ and ‘underserved’ areas in Wisconsin. These initiatives will significantly enhance economic development for our area of the state.”

“On a similar note, Gov. Evers has finally put Wisconsin on the path of fixing our state transportation issues,” Milroy continued. “Instead of continuing to kick the can down the road, this budget provides long-term, sustainable solutions for improving our road systems. While the budget partially funds this initiative with an 8-cent gas tax, Gov. Evers’ budget also removes a hidden 14-cent tax, meaning we may actually see lower prices at the pump.”

In addition, Milroy expressed his support for a number of specific proposals that would greatly benefit Northwest Wisconsin residents, including: Increased funds for clean water initiatives. Expanding Medicaid coverage in Wisconsin, providing health coverage to an additional 82,000 individuals. Adjusting the Homestead Tax Credit, increasing the maximum income limit and implementing indexing for inflation. Raising the minimum wage $1 on Jan. 1, 2020, then 75 cents each year for three years beginning in 2021, and by the change in the consumer price index for each year thereafter. Improving unemployment benefits by increasing the maximum weekly benefit rate from $370 to $406 and removing the one-week waiting period. “The people of Northwest Wisconsin should feel good about the priorities put forward in the governor’s budget,” Milroy concluded. “For too long, rural areas have felt like somewhat of an afterthought in state policy discussions. It’s encouraging to see Gov. Evers place an emphasis on issues that positively impact the residents of northern Wisconsin.”

Rep Nick Milroy on the 2019 executive budget

BIRDS OF A FEATHER

BIRDS AND BEER MARCH 7 AT DALLAS

Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary will be hosting Birds and Beer at Valkyrie Brewing Company in Dallas on Thursday, March 7. Registration starts at 5:30 p.m. and the program starts at 6 p.m. This month’s topic is Bluebirds, by Storme Nelson. Birds and Beer is a monthly program that gives nature enthusiasts the opportunity to interact in a casual setting. Each Birds and Beer program features a different presenter at a different location. This month’s speaker is a retired executive director of Hunt Hill, who will describe how to set up nest boxes to help protect bluebirds. Now is the perfect time to prepare to make things as attractive as possible – for the birds. You will learn about the preferences of bluebirds such as where they hunt and nest, and how to protect and check nest boxes. Registration is highly suggested because space is limited. To register, call 715-635-6543 or purchase tickets online at hunthill.org. Tickets are $10 if purchased in advance; $15 at the door. Hunt Hill is a nonprofit nature preserve and learning center. You can find out more about Hunt Hill and its programs at hunthill.org or by calling 715-635-6543. - Photo submitted

Eric Olson, of rural Luck, took this photo Monday, March 4, of an owl and a cardinal outside of his kitchen window. “I walked by and noticed the two sitting there about 2 feet from each other,” he noted. - Photo by Eric T. Olson
Fall to Fennimore in state title bid but achieved conference, regional and sectional championships, along with multiple tournament and individual titles.

Above The Fold Media | For The Leader

MADISON - If a season must end prior to winning a state title, it may as well be a loss to the eventual state champion.

The St. Croix Falls wrestling team reached last week-end’s WIAA Division 3 team state wrestling final and drew a semifinal matchup with Fennimore with hopes of an upset win. Fennimore dashed those hopes en route to claiming the state title for themselves.

The Golden Eagles ended the Saints title run with a 47-18 win in the semifinal and then got a pin in the heavyweight match to secure a 31-24 win over Stratford in the state final. But, the Saints could make a return trip next season, with nearly the entire roster from this season.

“This week ended a tremendous season for our team,” St. Croix Falls coach Dan Clark said. “With only two seniors, we were not sure how the rest of the team would step up. (But) the future looks bright as 12 of our 14 starters will return (next season).”

Fennimore got a pair of key and close decisions to open its matchup with the Saints. Brody Lee earned a 5-2 decision over Luke Thaemert, 106, and Luke Blair needed extra time to defeat Mason Will, 113, in sudden victory. By avoiding pins, the Saints were just one match from tying the score, but those pins were soon to come.

Mason Lull defeated Graidy Guggisberg, 120, in 1 minute, 31 seconds and Alex Birchman pinned Sam Glenna, 126, in 36 seconds, before Aidan Nutter won by major decision over Zack Clark, 132.

Individual state champion Kole Marko, 138, stopped the Fennimore run by pinning Taggan Gommel in 22 seconds to get the Saints on the board. Fennimore answered with a win via major decision by Trevor Waneck over Bennett Bergmann, 145, but Josey Wilson, 152, earned a 9-3 win over Mason Miles in his final match for St. Croix Falls.

Fennimore added a win by Maguire Fitzgerald in 1:25 over James Kemp, 160, and a 12-5 decision for Will Ahnen over Austin McCurdy, 170, who was the Saints’ other wrestler making his final appearance.

McKinly Erickson, 182, got a win by pin for the Saints in 1:53 and Tanner Gaffey, 285, added a 6-0 decision over Dylan Kehoe. But, the Golden Eagles had wins by pin from Aaron Ragels over Cal Leahy, 195, in 27 seconds and by Deontae Spurley in 2:37 over Will Randzil, 220.

“Austin McCurdy and Josey Wilson had tremendous careers and will be greatly missed next year,” Clark said. “(But) we have some very good eighth-graders coming in next year as well.

The Saints concluded a season that had conference, regional and sectional championships, along with multiple first place tournament finishes and the individual championships earned.

SCF wrestlers wind up outstanding season

The entire St. Croix Falls wrestling team posed for a photograph following their performances at the WIAA Division 3 team state wrestling final in Madison.

Photos by Maddy Stensven
McKinley Erickson, 182, got a win by pin for the Saints in 1:53 minutes.

Tanner Gaffey, 285, added a 6-0 decision for the Saints over Dylan Kehoe.

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Tanner Gaffey, 285, added a 6-0 decision for the Saints over Dylan Kehoe.

McKinley Erickson, 182, got a win by pin for the Saints in 1:53 minutes.
LEADER SPORTS

Quimby receives Jessie Vetter Award

Honored as top girls goalie for 2018-19 season

Above The Fold Media | For The Leader
MADISON – Emma Quimby, of Grantsburg, officially became the top girls hockey goaltender in Wisconsin on Saturday, March 2.

In coordination with the WIAA girls hockey state finals last weekend, Quimby received the Jessie Vetter Award as the top girls goalie for the 2018-19 season at Coliseum Banquet Hall in Madison. A week ago she was named one of five finalists for the award. Quimby led the Hayward girls co-op girls hockey team to an 11-10-4 overall record, with 10 of her wins coming in shutout fashion during the regular season. The 11th win, technically, could also be credited to her, since she played two of the three periods in a win over Bay Area. The Hurricanes scored the game-winning goal with Taylor Hammerel in the net, though both she and Quimby allowed one goal in the 2-1 win.

She added another shutout win in the playoffs, helping the Hurricanes to a 1-0 win over the West-Central Wisconsin Stars, who defeated Hayward just two weeks earlier. She also rejected 38 of the 41 shots she faced in the 3-0 loss to Eau Claire on Tuesday, Feb. 19, which eliminated the Hurricanes from postseason play.

In the 2018-19 season, Quimby played over 1,241 minutes and faced 549 shots on goal, making saves on 513 of them, including a pair of postseason games. That gave her a goals-against average of 1.37 and save percentage of 93.4.

Quimby, a junior, has another year of eligibility remaining and Hayward loses just four of their players to graduation before the 2019-20 season.

Gerber and Petersen turn in strong performances at state gymnastic finals

Above The Fold Media | For The Leader

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – One gymnast concluded her time with the Grantsburg Area Gymnastics co-op team in the state final, while another is eligible to try for a return, possibly with other teammates.

Gracie Gerber and Jeni Petersen finished the 2018-19 gymnastics season at the WIAA Division 2 individual state finals on Saturday, March 2. Gerber – a senior – was making her fourth appearance in either the individual or team state final for Grantsburg while Petersen – a junior – sought another upward move before her final season.

Both were part of a state-qualifying field making their way through a new “Capital Cup” format and it led to satisfactory results for the Grantsburg coaching staff, including Kathy Lund. “Gerber and Petersen had strong performances,” Lund said. “Both gave it their best.”

Gerber finished 22nd in the all-around with a total of 33.167, less than two points from a top-10 finish. Of the competitors involved in the all-around and not including those who qualified for the individual events, Gerber was 12th in the balance beam, 7.3, third in the floor exercise, 8.917, tied for first in the vault, 8.9, and had an 8.417 in the uneven bars as a qualifier.

“(Gerber) competed in all four events but it was on the uneven bars that she shined,” Lund said. “Scoring an 8.417, she was just .07 points from medaling.”

Over her four years with Grantsburg, Gerber has placed 93 times in either the top eight at invitationals or in the top five at dual meets.

Petersen also challenged for a top finish, in the floor exercise. She finished with a 9.25, to tie Autumn Tiede of River Falls for 11th in the event and just 0.17 point from a top-10 finish. “(Petersen) had a great floor routine, just not enough to place,” Lund said.

Grantsburg secured additional recognitions for efforts this season, in competition and away from it. Gerber, Kate Weiss, Amy Harmon, Victoria Lauer and Emma Sagle were named to the Academic All-State team; Gerber also was named a first-team vault competitor while Petersen was a second-team selection for the all-around. Allison Peterson was an honorable mention for the vault.

Emma Quimby of Grantsburg (second from right) received the Jessie Vetter Award as the top girls goalie for the 2018-19 season at Coliseum Banquet Hall in Madison. She plays goalie for the Hayward girls co-op hockey team. Other award winners shown (L to R) are Sidney Seeley, “Pistol” Cowden, Josie Mathison and Abby Severson. - Photo by ATF Media

RIGHT: Gracie Gerber and Jeni Petersen finished the 2018-19 gymnastics season at the WIAA Division 2 individual state finals on Saturday, March 2. Gerber, a senior, was making her fourth appearance in either the individual or team state final for Grantsburg while Petersen, a junior, sought another upward move before her final season. - Spectr photo
LEADER SPORTS

Anton qualifies for powerlifting nationals

SIREN – Gavyn Anton, a junior at Siren High School, is one of the few independent lifters in high school powerlifting. He only recently decided, last September, that he wanted to try powerlifting. At his first regional meet he placed first in his weight class and qualified for state. He then attended two more regional meets, which were optional, but Anton wanted to have more experience. He placed first at those meets as well and showed significant gains between each meet. On Sunday, March 3, he attended the state meet in Appleton which included 462 lifters - 14 in his weight class. He finished in second place and had his personal best of 1,339 pounds, which qualified him for the USA Powerlifting High School National Championships. Anton chose not to attend this year’s national meet, as he wants to build for another year with the hope of attending nationals next year, 2020, when they will be held in Texas.

On Sunday, March 3, Siren High School’s Gavyn Anton attended the state powerlifting meet in Appleton. Among 462 lifters, 14 in his weight class, Anton finished in second place and had his personal best of 1,339 pounds, which qualified him for the USA Powerlifting High School National Championships. He truly showed the heart of a Dragon.

The sophomore goalie tied for the conference team for the Middle Border Conference this season.

The team was getting the lead in the sectional semifinal. After earning a 40-26 win over Unity for a regional title, the Saints faced Colfax on Monday for a chance to add a sectional title. Despite coming close several times, the Saints were unable to claim a lead in the game and had their season concluded with a 55-50 loss at Somerset.

Olivia Miron had a team-high 17 points for St. Croix Falls, but, unfortunately for the Saints, none of the team’s buckets provided go-ahead points.

The first three points from Morgan Schleusner, who shared game-high scoring status with Miron, gave the Vikings a lead they didn’t relinquish. Miron answered with the Saints first two points but the Vikings followed with back-to-back baskets to give them a 55-50 loss at Somerset.

Olivia Miron sank a basket to bring the Saints within four points and going on an 8-1 run. But the Vikings again pulled away by scoring the next four points in the final minute. The Saints couldn’t get their next score to again make it a one-possession game and possibly force overtime or take the lead with a late basket.

While both teams were less than stellar from the floor, the Vikings’ performance at the free-throw line made the difference. Colfax went 19 for 28 from the line while the Saints were just 4 for 6.

Zach Bishop, Baldwin-Woodville, had a 90.1 save percentage. Only one goalie, Bents finished the season with an 8-13-2 record and he was joined by teammates Jackson Haukom, defense man, and Dominic Abbott, defenseman, in all-conference designations. He made saves on 16 of the 18 shots he faced in the Spartans opening-round 6-2 playoff win over rival WSFLG, though the team took a 7-0 loss to Hudson in the following round.

Bents chosen for MBC All-Conference team

ST. CROIX FALLS - Kaleb Bents, St. Croix Falls, was selected to the all-conference team for the Middle Border Conference this season.

The two-point play by Kaylee Miron in regulation, Kaylee Miron finished with 10 points and five rebounds; McCurdy had nine points and Neuman had four points and going on an 8-1 run. With time dwindling in regulation, Kaylee Miron sank a 3-pointer to make the score 49-45 and, soon after, Olivia Miron sank a basket to bring the Saints within a possession of 50-47. It was one of multiple times they pulled to within three points in the final minutes and each was answered by Colfax points, from either the floor or the free-throw line.

Schlesser made two of four free throws over the Vikings’ next two possessions, stretching their lead to five points in the final minute. The Saints couldn’t get that next score to again make it a one-possession game and possibly force overtime or take the lead with a late basket.

While both teams were less than stellar from the floor, the Vikings’ performance at the free-throw line made the difference. Colfax went 19 for 28 from the line while the Saints were just 4 for 6.

St. Croix Falls finished 21 for 66 from the floor and Colfax was 16 for 48; both teams made four of their 3-point attempts, but the Saints were hit with 23 foul calls while Colfax was called for just 12.

Kaylee Miron finished with 10 points and five rebounds; McCurdy had nine points and Neuman had eight points with six rebounds.

The Saints conclude the season with a 21-3 overall record.

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SAINTS lose close contest in sectional championship

The path could have led to the WIAA Division 4 state finals.

The problem for the St. Croix Falls girls basketball team was getting the lead in the sectional semifinal. After earning a 40-26 win over Unity for a regional championship days earlier, the Saints faced Colfax on Monday for a chance to add a sectional title. Despite coming close several times, the Saints were unable to claim a lead in the game and had their season concluded with a 55-50 loss at Somerset.

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Above The Fold Media | For The Leader

SOMERSET – The path could have led to the WIAA Division 4 state finals.

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Jensen scores 31 as Cardinals clinch regional title

Cards play Birchwood this Thursday; season comes to abrupt end for Vikings, Dragons, Pirates in WIAA playoffs

Above The Fold Media | For The Leader

MELLEN – Levi Jensen scored a game-high 31 points for the Luck boys basketball team in a 53-49 win over Mellen to secure the WIAA Division 5 regional title on Saturday, March 2.

Jensen had to lead the Cardinals back from an early deficit after Mellen started by scoring the first six points of the game. He gave them their first lead by following a Cansen Eley basket with five consecutive points, putting Luck ahead 7-6.

But, Mellen responded and built a seven-point lead at 19-12. Jensen led the comeback by scoring six consecutive points for Luck and in the final minutes of the half, sank a 3-pointer that tied the game at 29-29.

The teams entered halftime with a 31-31 tie and a 3-pointer from Jensen gave the Cardinals a 36-35 lead early in the second half. Key baskets, both from the floor and at the free throw line from Jensen and Gage Johansen secured the win for Luck.

Johansen had 13 points for the Cardinals, who will face Birchwood in the sectional semifinal at Cumberland on Thursday, March 7.

WEBSTER 59, SCF 54
WEBSTER – Jack Washburn scored 14 of his game-high 23 points in the second half of the Tigers win on Friday.

Kullan Parks scored nine of his 15 points for St. Croix Falls in the first half while Declan Greenquist added all eight of his points in the game before halftime.

The Saints relied on long-range shooting throughout the game, sinking four 3-pointers in the first half and five more in the second half. Meanwhile, the Tigers were scoring at the free throw line; they sank 10 free throws in the first half and 11 more in the second.

Trever Gustafson and Colton Peterson added 11 points each for Webster. Jared Lessman, who made four of the Saints 3-pointers in the game, finished with a team-high 17 points.

GRANTSBURG 64, GLENWOOD CITY 52
A double-digit first-half lead boosted the Pirates to a win on Feb. 26, in Division 5 playoff action at Clear Lake.

Austin Wedin scored eight first-half points and Jared VanWatermeulen added seven to lead Grantsburg to a 31-20 lead entering halftime. Twelve second-half points from VanWatermeulen and free throws helped the Pirates secure the win. In total, the Pirates made 15 second-half free throws.

VanWatermeulen finished with a game-high 19 points; Carson Knutson had 15 and Wedin had 14. The Pirates lost in the Division 4 regional title game on Friday, March 2, to Clear Lake, 48-29.

COFLAX 70, UNITY 60
COFLAX – Despite a game-high 26 points from Dan Sorensen, the Eagles’ comeback fell short on Friday, March 2, in Division 4 playoff action at Colfax.

Unity trailed by 15 points entering halftime but nearly doubled its scoring effort in the second half. However, the Vikings had four scorers in double figures, including 23 from Ben Thompson and 16 points each from George Scharlau and Ed Hydukovich.

Jaxon Flaherty added 12 points for Unity; Zachary Collins had nine and Cullen Feist had eight.

LUCK 79, BUTTERNUT 54
LUCK – Levi Jensen had a game-high 29 points for the Cardinals in their Division 5 playoff win at Luck on Feb. 26. Jensen was 11-for-14 from the floor and 7-for-9 at the free-throw line. He scored the first four points of the game and he combined with Gage Johansen for 12 of Luck’s first 14 points, leading the Cardinals to a 14-3 advantage.

The Cardinals’ lead reached 23 points late in the first half and they entered the break with a 39-19 lead. In the second half, Jensen scored back-to-back baskets that put Luck up 54-24.

Jensen added nine rebounds and five assists for Luck; Johansen had 18 points and 13 rebounds while Cansen Eley had 12 points, seven rebounds and seven assists.

BIRCHWOOD 65, FREDERIC 56
BIRCHWOOD - The Vikings’ postseason run came to an abrupt end in first-round Division 5 playoff action at Birchwood on Tuesday, Feb. 26.

Birchwood forced 22 Frederic turnovers and after taking its first lead at 10-7 early in the first half, didn’t relinquish the advantage.

Adam Dreier had a team-high 18 points and 12 rebounds for the Vikings, who had opportunities to tie or take the lead late in the second half. A Logan Lillehaug, 3-pointer brought Frederic within a possession at 46-43 and in the final minutes, a pair of free throws from Ethan Alexander later made it a 50-48 game.

But the Bobcats scored four consecutive points at the free-throw line and Matthew Marcinske – who finished with a game-high 22 points – later scored four consecutive points to give Birchwood a 58-51 lead late in the game. Marcinske also scored the final four points of the game to secure the win.

Lillehaug finished with 11 points and five assists for Frederic; Bradley Nick and Garrett Rank had eight points each.

WASHBURN 64, SIREN 61
WASHBURN - Despite 21 points from Riley Churchill and 20 points from Kaan Christanson, the Dragons had their season ended on Feb. 26 in Division 5 playoff action.

Siren trailed by eight points entering the half but recovered and were within a possession late. However, Washburn had a trio of double-digit scorers led by 21 points from Evan Rusch.

Jordan Webster added six points for Siren while Nathan Kosloski, Chad Songetay and Brady Kosloski had four points each.

Tiger Jack Washburn accepts congratulations from a teammate during Webster’s victory over St. Croix Falls. - Photo by Eugene Sikorski
Celebration

Nationally ranked high jumper

Raelin Sorensen, a Unity High School graduate, made a career high jump of 5-7 5/8, earning a second-place finish at the WIAC conference championship held at UW-Whitewater recently.

She jumped her placed 16th nationally.

She could potentially advance to the national championships in Boston, pending the final week's performance. - Special photo

Members of the Saints boys basketball team celebrate after taking a lead in the game against Webster on Friday, March 1, but they ended up losing a close one to the Tigers.

- Photo by Eugene Sikorski

BOWLING

The 300 Club

Monday Afternoon Retired

Standings: Malunds 26, Night Hawks 25, Vultures 21, Bears 20, Hummingbirds 14, Eagles 13, Swans 13, Badgers 12.

Men's games: Dan Banne 212, Eddie Bitler 222, Dale Frandsen 212, Dave Bannister 590.

Women's games: Margie Traun 189, Rita Frank 181, Pat Bresina 174.

Tuesday Evening Games:

Eagles 700, Malundi 698, Bears 688.


Tuesday Classic

Standings: Nature Boys 72, Power 59, House of Wood 47.5, Yellow Lake Lodge 45, Halls of Pain 33, Pioneer 20, Hummingbirds 14, Eagles 13, Swans 13, Badgers 12.

Individual games: Brett Daeffler 277 (+6x).

Tuesday Night Mixed

Standings: The Leader, State Farm Insurance, Lenz Farms, Dols with Balls, Owens Farms.

Individual games: Don Swenson (RIS) 227 (5x), Davis Hall (HR) 249 (5x) & 229 (5x).

Games 50 pins or more above average: Dave Hall (HR) 246 (+50) & 247 (+53); Graham Hall (WC) 236 (+30), Tim Pederson 224 (+66), Curtis Renfroe 253 (+45).

Series: 100 pins or more above average: Dave Hall (HR) 722 (+140), Tim Pederson 617 (+143).

Others: 700 series: Dave Hall (HR) 722.

Splits converted: 2-7-8: Jim Wistrom (WC); 6-7-9-10: Tim Pederson (FP).

Friday Night Mixed

Standings: The Leader, State Farm Insurance, Lenz Farms, Dols with Balls, Owens Farms.

Individual games: Margie Traun 201, Pat Traun 200, Dorothy Barknecht 189.

Individual series: Margie Traun 548, Sheila Hansen 453, Dorothy Barknecht 498.


Games 50 or more above average: Dorothy Barknecht 189 (+60), Spots converted: 5-6 Marie Mertz: 2-5-7: Mary Mertz, 4-5 Becky Frank; 7-6: Jane Johnson; 4-5-7: Dorothy Barknecht.

McKenzie Lanes

Monday Night Madness

Standings: Babes with Balls 56, Edna Divas 50, Jensen Sundquist 44, Eagle Lounge 41, Grizzly Concrete 37, Alleycats 32, Mishaps 31, Spare Me 29.

Individual games: Sheryl Swaggar 219, Cindy Castellano 258, Melissa Hoveland 188.

Individual series: Cindy Castellano 585, Cindy Hoveland 546, Sheryl Swaggar 531.


Games: Babes with Balls 1922, Edna Divas 1787.

Tuesday Women's

Standings: Main Street Cafe 91, Kassel Tap 87.5, River Birch Dental 72.5, Jeff's Small Engine 67.5, Edina Realty 67.5, Tornilson Insurance 66, Split Happens 62, Bye 30.

Individual games: Shirley Wilton 225, Cindy Castellano 185, Sandy Bannie 181.


Team games: Kassel Tap 870, Team series: Main Street Cafe 2398.

Wednesday Night Men's

Standings: Captain's Bar 169, Tiger Express 161, Dutch's Bar & Grill 155, River Birch Dental 154, Heartland 150, Halls of Pain 149, Manor 145, Alleycats 136.

Individual games: Cindy Castellano 258, Jeff's Small Engine 236, State Farm Insurance 232, Eddie Bitler 222, Dale Frandsen 212.

Wednesday Night Ladies

Standings: Living on a Spare 3347, Bullwinkle & Friends 3247, Webster Automotive 3246, Lenz Farms 3245, Adjustable 3231, Bows & Arrows 3227, Edina Realty 3226.

Individual games: Millie Handerson 599, Cindy Castellano 585, Erica Dowell 580, Kris-all 559, Sheena 558.

Wednesday Night Women's

Standings: Sweeny's 30.5-27.5, 10th Hole 22-18, Black & Orange 21-19, Gandy Dancer Saloon 16-25.5.

Individual games: Millie Hansen (WA) 174, Sandy Smith (BAO) 162, Donna Crain (GDS) 158.

Wednesday Night Men's

Individual games: Josh Johnson 256 (+66); Curtis Renfroe (LC) 253, Dave Hall (WC) 236 (+80); Tim Pederson 224 (+52) & 247 (+53); Graham Hall (WC) 227 (+143).

Splits converted: 5-6 Marie Mertz: 2-5-7: Mary Mertz, 4-5 Becky Frank; 7-6: Jane Johnson; 4-5-7: Dorothy Barknecht.

Black & Orange

Monday Night Men's

Standings: Josh's Mini Donuts 24-12, Black & Orange 20-16, Brune's Auto 19-17, Vacant 5-21.

Individual games: Josh Johnson (JMD) 229, Tim Vasadka (BAO) 223, Tim Vasadka (BAO) 222.

Individual series: Tony Wilson (BA) 505, Josh Johnson (JMD) 505, Dave Hall (BA) 502.

Team games: Josh's Mini Donuts 2571, Brune's Auto 2529, Black & Orange 2396.

Games 50 or more above average: Tim Vasadka 221 (+69).

Early Risers 2-21-19

Standings: Webster Automotive 20.5-15.5, 10th Hole 19-17, Black & Orange 18-18, Gandy Dancer Saloon 14-5-21.5.

Individual games: Joan-Java-Ha-Ha 101 (10-1), Donna Crain (GDS) 100, Pam Ditline (10-1-2), Jim All 82.

Team games: Josh's Mini Donuts 2571, Brune's Auto 2529, Black & Orange 2396.

Games 50 or more above average: Monte Rinnman 259 (+75); Mike Zajac 258 (+69), Josh Johnson 255 (+61), Curi Phelps 223 (+56), Mark Holmstrom 210 (+55).

Team games: Sweeney's 2603, Black & Orange 2561, Gandy Dancer Saloon 2478.

TNT


Individual games: Cheryl Scallon (NL) 188, Sandy Buhil (NL) 173, Sue Eytcheson (FP) 170.

Individual series: Sue Eytcheson (FP) 478, Jennifer Kem (JMD) 476, Sandy Buhil (NL) & Cheryl Scallon (NL) 471.


Wednesday Night

Standings: Bullwinkle & Friends 17-11, Northwoods Lumber 17-11, Lily Lake Tavern 14-14, Black & Orange 8-20.

Individual games: Monte Rinnman (NL) 259, Mike Zajac (NL) 255, Josh Johnson (BAO) 256.

Individual series: Mike Zajac (NL) 694, Josh Johnson (BAO) 670, Monte Rinnman (NL) 647.

Team games: Northwoods Lumber 1159, Black & Orange 1138, Lily Lake Tavern 1104.

Individual games: Sally Casey (S) 159, Donna Crain (GDS) 150, Michelle Lydahl (S) & Lorene Breuging (BAO) 149.

Individual series: Sally Casey (S) 435, Michelle Lydahl (S) 421, Donna Crain (BAO) 418.

Team games: Sweeney's 912, Black & Orange 876, Gandy Dancer Saloon 844.
Polk County Deer Advisory Council to hold first meeting

BALSAM LAKE - The Polk County Deer Advisory Council will meet to review data and form preliminary 2019 antlerless quota, permit and season structure recommendations.

The meeting will be held at the Polk County Government Center, East Conference Room, on Tuesday, March 19, at 6 p.m.

While this is a working meeting of the council, the public is encouraged to attend and will have a formal opportunity to provide insight during the public comment period of the meeting.

CDACs are part of an effort to provide more public input on deer management issues and give stakeholders a greater responsibility in managing local county-wide deer numbers.

Councils will review and discuss the previous year’s hunting season results and long-term harvest trends, accept public comments and develop preliminary antlerless quota, permit and season structure recommendations. Recommendations will be sent to the natural resources board for approval.

Citizens are encouraged to attend their CDAC March meeting and provide comments to the council. Local Department of Natural Resources staff will be on hand to present information and answer any questions.

Following the March meetings, an online public comment period will take place from April 1-10, with a final council meeting being held April 16 to allow the council to review public feedback before making final recommendations on the antlerless quota, permit and season structure.

Those unable to attend their county’s meeting can view meeting minutes on the department’s website at dnr.wi.gov. Some county councils have vacant seats, and qualified individuals are encouraged to look at the list of members if interested in filling a seat. An application and additional information can be found on the CDAC webpage. For more information regarding county deer advisory councils, visit dnr.wi.gov and search keyword CDAC.

Reminder: State law requires registration for all livestock locations

MADISON – The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection has scheduled a series of open house meetings March 11-14 to present this year’s gypsy moth aerial treatment plans.

“The gypsy moth is a serious invasive pest that threatens our forests and urban trees. It can have a negative impact on pest that threatens our forests and urban ecosystems,” said Christopher Foecker, coordinator of DATCP’s gypsy moth program.

CDATC sets meetings on gypsy moth treatment plans

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“The gypsy moth is a serious invasive pest that threatens our forests and urban trees. It can have a negative impact on pest that threatens our forests and urban ecosystems,” said Christopher Foecker, coordinator of DATCP’s gypsy moth program.

Beginning in May and continuing through July, DATCP plans to treat selected areas in western Wisconsin using low-flying planes. A total of about 116,618 acres at 49 sites in 16 counties are scheduled for treatment. These areas have been identified as having increasing populations of the gypsy moth, a destructive non-native insect with an appetite for hundreds of different species of trees and shrubs.

The open houses are scheduled on Tuesday, March 14, 10 a.m. - noon; at the Spooner fish hatchery, 951 West Maple St.

Counties scheduled to receive aerial treatments are Barron, Buffalo, Burnett, Chippewa, Crawford, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Grant, Green, Iowa, La Crosse, Lafayette, Pepin, Vernon and Washburn.

DATCP is encouraging the public to attend these meetings to present information and answer questions. Some council meetings will have a formal opportunity for public comment and additional information can be found on the CDAC webpage. For more information regarding county deer advisory councils, visit dnr.wi.gov and search keyword CDAC.

Reminder: State law requires registration for all livestock locations

MADISON – The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection has scheduled a series of open house meetings March 11-14 to present this year’s gypsy moth aerial treatment plans.

“The gypsy moth is a serious invasive pest that threatens our forests and urban trees. It can have a negative impact on pest that threatens our forests and urban ecosystems,” said Christopher Foecker, coordinator of DATCP’s gypsy moth program.

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**Polk County Court Circuit**

The week of Feb. 18:
- Two traffic stops, one parking complaint, three juvenile incidents, one motorist assist, one home invasion, three BSCO assists, two background checks, one incident involving a missing person.
- Two traffic stops, one parking complaint, three juvenile incidents, one motorist assist, three BSCO assists, one background check.
- One vehicle rollover with no injuries, one car fire, one medical, four traffic stops, two background checks, one incident involving a missing person.
- Two car fires and one fire alarm.

**Burnett County**

- Two traffic stops, one parking complaint, three juvenile incidents, one motorist assist, three BSCO assists, three gasoline thefts and transportation incidents that may pose a threat to human safety.
- Two traffic stops, one parking complaint, three juvenile incidents, one motorist assist, three BSCO assists.
- Two traffic stops, one parking complaint, three juvenile incidents, one motorist assist, three BSCO assists.
- Two traffic stops, one parking complaint, three juvenile incidents, one motorist assist, three BSCO assists, two background checks.
- Two traffic stops, one parking complaint, three juvenile incidents, one motorist assist, three BSCO assists, one background check.
- One vehicle rollover with no injuries, one car fire, one medical, four traffic stops, two background checks, one incident involving a missing person.

**Siren Police Department**

The Siren Police Department recorded the following incidents for the week of Feb. 18:
- One traffic citation and one out-of-vehicle arrest.
- Two traffic stops, one parking complaint, three juvenile incidents, one motorist assist.
- One traffic stop, one parking complaint, two juvenile incidents, one motorist assist.
- One traffic stop, one parking complaint, two juvenile incidents, one motorist assist.
- One traffic stop, one parking complaint, two juvenile incidents, one motorist assist.
- One traffic stop, one parking complaint, two juvenile incidents, one motorist assist.
- Two traffic stops, one parking complaint, three juvenile incidents, one motorist assist.

**Burnett County**

- Two car fires and one fire alarm.

**Grantsburg Fire Department**

Grantsburg Fire Department recorded the following incidents for the week of Feb. 18:
- Two car fires and one fire alarm.

**Siren Fire Department**

- One fire alarm.

**Burnett County**

- Two traffic stops, one parking complaint, three juvenile incidents, one motorist assist.
- One traffic stop, one parking complaint, two juvenile incidents, one motorist assist.
- One traffic stop, one parking complaint, two juvenile incidents, one motorist assist.
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- Two traffic stops, one parking complaint, three juvenile incidents, one motorist assist.

**Notice**

**Notice of Public Hearing**

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any part of a bid or all bids. The School District of Webster does not discriminate in education or employment based on sex, race, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sex orientation or disability.

**Board Meeting**

The Board meeting will be held on the following dates:
- March 6, 2019 - INTER-COUNTY LEADER - NEWS SECTION - A - PAGE 21
- March 13, 2019, 7:30 p.m.
- March 20, 2019, 7:30 p.m.
- March 27, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

**Siren Fire Department**

- One traffic citation and one out-of-vehicle arrest.

**Burnett County**

- Two traffic stops, one parking complaint, three juvenile incidents, one motorist assist.
- One traffic stop, one parking complaint, two juvenile incidents, one motorist assist.
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**PUBLIC POLICY**

**Police Officer Village of Frederic Full Time**

Village of Frederic, WI is accepting applications for a Full-time Police Officer. The applicant must be willing and able to work all shifts, including nights, weekends and holidays. Requirements include an AA degree or equivalant and a minimum of two years' experience. Wages will be based on qualifications. If interested, please submit a resume to: Village of Frederic. Attention Ryan Karsten, 110 Oak St, E., PO. Box 567, Frederic, WI 54837 or by email at: jennifer@fredericdev.com by March 9, 2019.

**Position Opening**

Care Partner (Assisted Living)  
Night Shift, Full and Part Time  
$10.00 per hour Hour Difference  
**$500 signing bonus **  
**Paid training program**  
Experience the Larson Manor Difference!  
Beautiful facility, independent residents, no mandated overtime.  
Applying in person or emailing unitedpioneerhome.org  
315 S. 2nd Street, Luck, WI 54853

**Position OPENING**

Custodian (FILL-IN)  
$15.63/HOUR  
Burnett County is accepting applications for a Full-time Custodian-Full Time Night Shift.  
Do you want to work as a CNA, but aren’t currently certified? Contact Jamie Faro our Director of Nursing to discuss GNC options.

**APPLICATIONS ARE stimulate accepted for Seasonal Workers for the Burnett County Highway Departments, state law and county policy. First review of applications March 18, 2019. Open until filled.**

**Financial Specialist**

$23.83/HOUR  
Burnett County is accepting applications for a Full-time Finance Specialist. This skilled administrative position performs the financial administration of the Highway Department in general conformance with the Uniform Cost Accounting System for Wisconsin County Highway Departments, state law and county policy. First review of applications March 18, 2019. Open until filled.

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**Agricultural Applicator - Full Time**

The Agricultural Applicator will be responsible for operating and maintaining applicator equipment, maintaining the equipment and tools used in the applicator process, and record keeping. As well as installing, adjusting, and performing minor maintenance and repairs on equipment to ensure operating efficiency and effective application. To be considered for this position the candidate must have the following:

- A class B driver’s license with good driving history
- A Pesticide Applicator license for MN/WI or the ability to obtain one
- The ability to operate a forklift and maintain a forklift license
- The ability to primarily work outside on and around commercial agriculture equipment and machinery
- The ability to frequently transport equipment including trailers and vehicles, 40+ hours/week, and includes weekends. In the months of April and May, this position will likely be scheduled 7 days a week.

**Deadline - March 15, 2019, or until filled**

**Agricultural Opportunities**

Burnett County is accepting applications for multiple Aquatic Invasive Species Intern positions for the 2019 season. Applications accepted through April 15, 2019.

Requirements: The individual must be able to work independently, in teams, and occasionally lift up to 75 pounds. An unrestricted Wisconsin class B CDL with Tanker and Air Brakes license is required. Class A CDL preferred. Must have a clean driving record.

**Applications are available at www.burnettcounty.com/employment.**

**Applying for the position:** You can apply for this position at: Burnett Dairy office, 11631 State Road 70 Grantsburg, WI 54840, or send your resume and application to jobs@burnettdairy.com.

**NOW HIRING**

**Agronomy Drivers**

Burnett Dairy Co-op Agronomy Division is currently accepting applications for the position of Agronomy Driver. This position is responsible for tending fertilizer, tending water, and delivering fertilizer spreaders to our patrons. The position is 40+ hours/week, and includes weekends. In the months of April and May, this position will likely be scheduled 7 days a week.

Requirements: The individual must be able to work independently, in teams, and occasionally lift up to 75 pounds. An unrestricted Wisconsin class B CDL with Tanker and Air Brakes license is required. Class A CDL preferred. Must have a clean driving record.

Applications are available at www.burnettcounty.com/employment.

**Applying for the position:** You can apply for this position at: Burnett Dairy office, 11631 State Road 70 Grantsburg, WI 54840, or send your resume and application to jobs@burnettdairy.com.

**Positions Available**

Sirens High School is currently accepting applications for the position of Siren School District Transportation Staff. The position is responsible for transporting students to and from school and other community locations.

**Applying for the position:**

Send letter of application and resume to: Siren School District  
Attn: Ryan Karsten, Athletic Director  
24022 4th Ave. North, Siren, WI 54872

Or contact Ryan Karsten at: 
ad@siren.k12.wi.us, ext. 310

**Position will be filled as soon as possible.**

**NOW HIRING**

**Production Supervisor**

Burnett Dairy Cooperative is currently recruiting for the role of Production Supervisor. The right candidate for this position will be highly motivated, have demonstrated excellent leadership skills and have a supervisory background. The Production Supervisor will be responsible for the safety, health, quality, productivity and performance of a specific department. This position’s main responsibilities include production performance and giving employees direction. The Production Supervisor spends most of the time on the production floor, engaged with the team and having thorough knowledge of departmental operations. The role of the Production Supervisor may include total supervision of people on all shifts, processes and products being produced and/or packaged. Previous supervisory experience required and food manufacturing experience a plus. The position is located in Grantsburg, WI. Sectors vary from dairy to food-in-related field, biology or food sciences preferred.

This is a full-time position with a competitive starting wage and benefits package including health, vision, dental, long-term/short-term disability, paid vacation/ sick time, 401(k) with generous company match, profit sharing and discounts.

**Applying in person:**

At the Burnett Dairy office, 11631 State Road 70 Grantsburg, WI 54840

**Online:**

Apply online at Burnettdairy.com, or call 715-689-2000 for more information.
Notice to Creditors
(Informal Administration)
Case No. 19PR19
Dated March 6, 2019
Jenell L. Anderson
Probate Registrar
February 25, 2019
Clifford Anderson
1246 30th Ave.
Fondue, Wisconsin 54024
715-327-8783

NOTICE
TOWN OF MILLTOWN PLAN MEETING
Monday, Mar. 11, 2019
7:30 p.m.
Milltown Fire Hall
J. Gary Liliquist, Clerk

TOWN OF MILLTOWN
Plan Committee
Meeting
Mon., Mar. 11, 2019
6:30 p.m.
Milltown Fire Hall
J. Gary Liliquist, Clerk

IF YOU WANT TO APPEAR AT THE HEARING, YOU MUST FILE AN OFFICIAL APPEARANCE
WITH THE CIRCUIT COURT IN THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE COURT IS CONDUCTING THE
HEARING.

City of St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin
105 W. Main St.
St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin 54024

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
March 13, 2019

1. The meeting will be held at the St. Croix Falls City Hall, 105 W. Main St., St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin.
2. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss and make a determination on the proposed amendments.
3. The meeting is open to the public. Any member of the public may speak for up to five minutes on any topic.
4. The meeting will be recorded and minutes will be made available upon request.

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE MATTER OF the MARRIAGE of
Carrie L. Craft
and
David R. Talmage

2:00 p.m.
City Hall
St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin

NOTICE
TO THE PUBLIC
IN THE MATTER OF the MARRIAGE of
Carrie L. Craft
and
David R. Talmage

1:00 p.m.
City Hall
St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin

Rev. 6-29-18

MARCH 6, 2019 - INTER-COUNTY LEADER - NEWS SECTION - A - PAGE 23
Wisconsin trails nation in offering school breakfasts

Report shows state saw slight drop in free and reduced breakfasts in 2017-18

Editor’s note: Most school districts in Washburn, Burnett and Polk counties offer breakfast at school.

Shamane Mills | WPR News

STATEWIDE - The number of Wisconsin students who received breakfast at school through a federally subsidized nutrition program decreased slightly in the 2017-18 school year. And while about 83 percent of schools in the state participated in the School Breakfast Program, that actually puts Wisconsin near the bottom nationally.

“If a school is not offering the school breakfast program, then children cannot access it,” said Crystal FitzSimons of the Food Research & Action Center, which released its School Breakfast Scorecard on Wednesday, Feb. 20.

“The biggest barrier to providing breakfast is funding,” said DPI spokesman Thomas McCarthy.

On top of federal money, Wisconsin has a school reimbursement rate for free and reduced breakfast of 15 cents a meal. But the state hasn’t paid schools that statutorily set rate since 2006. Because of a shortfall in the account that pays schools for providing breakfast, the reimbursement has fallen to about 7 cents, said McCarthy.

Another obstacle is the time and effort, which some schools say they just can’t spare.

“We are trying to, in all sorts of different ways, support districts so that they see the value in breakfast, because in places where it’s implemented well, it has made a difference in the lives of kids and families and the academic achievement of students in the district,” McCarthy said.

According to the FRAC report, the number of students getting school breakfast across the United States continues to grow but at a slower pace than it has in the last several years. Even as national participation increased, a majority of states participation rates remained flat or slightly decreased in the 2017-18 school year. Wisconsin saw a slight decrease, about 400 students out of nearly 151,000 who participate.

The report cites two primary barriers to getting more kids to eat: timing and location.

Oftentimes breakfast is served in a cafeteria before school starts, meaning some kids miss out. Districts are becoming more flexible, allowing breakfast in the classroom or offering a prepackaged meal a student picks up when school starts or in between classes.

“Milwaukee Public Schools are making strides,” FitzSimons said. “They’re offering free breakfast to all students and they actually have a significant number of schools offering breakfast in the classroom or grab ‘n go programs.”

Nationwide, 57 percent of low-income students in the free and reduced school lunch program also eat breakfast. In Wisconsin, it’s lower, about 52 percent. FRAC would like to see all states reach 70 percent.

High-poverty schools can offer free breakfast and lunch to all students, which lessens stigma and can increase participation, according to the report.

The program allowing schools to offer free meals to all is called the Community Eligibility Provision. The practice started in the 2014-15 school year.

“And so as time goes on and districts see their peers doing it, we are seeing a steady growth,” McCarthy said. “Not massive, but there’s a growth in districts using it.”
2018 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT FOR SIREN WATERWORKS, PWS ID: 80703117

Water System Information

If you would like to find out more about information contained in this report, please contact Jim Jaskolka at 715-349-2493.

Opportunity For Input On Decisions Affecting Your Water Quality
The first Thursday after the first Monday of each month at 2 p.m. at Siren Village Hall.

Health Information

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of certain contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Water hotline (800-426-4791).

People may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV infection or AIDS; some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available.

To obtain a summary of the source water assessment, please contact Jim Jaskolka at 715-349-2493.

Detected Contaminants

Your water was tested for many contaminants last year. We are allowed to monitor for some contaminants less frequently than once a year. The following tables list only those contaminants that were detected in your water. It is very important to review these tables, as a sample data is if the contaminant was not monitored last year, but was last year. It will appear in the tables below along with the sample data.

Inorganic Contaminants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant (units)</th>
<th>MCL (ppm)</th>
<th>MCLG (ppb)</th>
<th>Level Found (if prior to 2018)</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Sample Date (if prior to 2018)</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Typical Source of Contaminant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARSENIC (ppb)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3.44 - 5.25</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>6/26/2017</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARIUM (ppm)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.061</td>
<td>0.021 - 0.061</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>6/26/2017</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Discharge of drinking wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLUORIDE (ppm)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.1 - 0.1</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>6/26/2017</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Discharge of natural deposits; addition of strong hydrochloric acid from fertilizer and animal manure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SODIUM (ppm)</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>1.34 - 2.55</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>6/26/2017</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Radioactive Contaminants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant (units)</th>
<th>MCL (ppm)</th>
<th>MCLG (ppb)</th>
<th>Level Found (if prior to 2018)</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Sample Date (if prior to 2018)</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Typical Source of Contaminant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RADON-224 (pCi/L)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>6/26/2017</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RADON-222 (pCi/L)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>6/26/2017</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Health Information

While your drinking water meets USEPA’s standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. USEPA’s standard balances the current understanding of arsenic’s possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. USEPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, including cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV infection or AIDS; some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

FREDERIC BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

1. President Mr. Holicky called the regular meeting of the Frederic Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 16, 2019, in the District Board Room.

2. Board members present: Mr. Nelson, Mrs. Amundson, Mr. Ennis, Mr. Chell.

3. Administration present: Mr. Robinson, Ms. Harford and Ms. Chaloner.

4. Motion by Chell to approve the agenda for the meeting, carried 5-0.

5. Information

a. Administrative Reports
   1) Mr. Robinson presented the District Administrator report.
   2) Ms. Harford presented the 0-12-18 school report.
   3) Ms. Chaloner presented the Elementary report.

b. Reports of Board and Departments
   1) The school board election will be held on April 5, 2019, that will include candidates Corey LibbL Hugh and Troy Engen.
   2) The State Education Convention will be held January 22-25 in Milwaukee, WI.

6. Policies

a. Action Items
   1) Motion Amundson to approve the Athletic Co-op Agreement. Seconded by Ennis and motion carried 5-0.

b. Motion to Amend to approve the Annual Information Technology Report. Seconded by Amundson and motion carried 5-0.

c. Motion to Approve the Interim District Goals Report. Seconded by Nelson and motion carried 5-0.

d. Motion to Approve the Initial Resolution Authorizing Issuance of General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed $75,000.00. Seconded by Amundson and motion carried 5-0.

e. Motion Nelson to approve the following resolutions: Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Questions of the 2019-20 School Year in the Amount of $500,000 and an Initial Resolution Authorizing issuance of General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed $75,000.00. Seconded by Amundson and motion carried 5-0.

f. Motion Nelson to request a variance to Article 15-10 of the Polk County Shoreland Protection Ordinance, commencing with the 2019-20 School Year in the Amount of $500,000 and an Initial Resolution Authorizing issuance of General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed $75,000.00. Seconded by Amundson and motion carried 5-0.

7. The Board reviewed their meeting specifically with respect to the following items:

a. Fiscal

   2) The State Education Convention will be held January 22-25 in Milwaukee, WI.

b. Administration

   1) The School Board election will be held on April 5, 2019, that will include candidates Corey LibbL Hugh and Troy Engen.
   2) The State Education Convention will be held January 22-25 in Milwaukee, WI.

8. Action Items

a. Motion to Approve the Athletic Co-op Agreement. Seconded by Ennis and motion carried 5-0.

b. Motion to Approve the Annual Information Technology Report. Seconded by Amundson and motion carried 5-0.

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9. The Board reviewed their meeting specifically with respect to the following items:

a. Fiscal

   2) The State Education Convention will be held January 22-25 in Milwaukee, WI.

b. Administration

   1) The School Board election will be held on April 5, 2019, that will include candidates Corey LibbL Hugh and Troy Engen.
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11. Motion Nelson to request a variance to Article 15-10 of the Polk County Shoreland Protection Ordinance, commencing with the 2019-20 School Year in the Amount of $500,000 and an Initial Resolution Authorizing issuance of General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed $75,000.00. Seconded by Amundson and motion carried 5-0.

12. Motion Chell/Holicky to adjourn, carried 5-0. Time 8:36 p.m.

Libby Mossey, Recording Secretary

MARCH 6, 2019 - INTER-COUNTY LEADER - NEWS SECTION A - PAGE 25
Elementary teachers get pied to raise funds

Luck Elementary School students and staff decided to create an elementary student council during the spring of 2018. This year, the students wanted to raise money to fund the different events that they plan to do in the future. Many of the elementary teachers and elementary Principal Jason Harelson volunteered to have their pictures placed on buckets to collect monetary donations with the possibility of being “pied.” The three individuals who “earned” the most money in their buckets were pied. On Thursday, Feb. 14, the elementary students and staff gathered in the gymnasium for the “pie-ing.” The names of several students were randomly drawn and they had the honor of “pie-ing” fourth-grade teacher Tim Smyth, sixth-grade teacher Carolyn Peterson and Harelson.
Grantsburg Elementary and Nelson School students celebrate book week

GRANTSBURG - Each year children across America celebrate Dr. Seuss’s birthday by coming together to read. Students at Grantsburg Elementary and Nelson Primary schools participated in many fun activities centered around reading and Dr. Seuss’ birthday the week of Feb. 25-March 1.

Throughout the week, students took part in a challenge to see how many minutes they could read each night at home. Special classroom visitors included the Cat in the Hat, reading what else but Dr. Seuss books and Grantsburg Elementary Principal Elizabeth Olson, who read students a book about courage. Students and staff had fun wearing silly and funny outfits for special dress up days including Sports Day, Wide World Day, Color Day and the always popular Pajama Day. Each grade level had one specific Dr. Seuss book which teachers planned activities around the entire week. During library classes students experimented with a green screen and Dr. Seuss backdrops. “It was a fun week celebrating Dr. Seuss and reading,” noted Grantsburg School District reading resource teacher Patricia Bergman.

Photos submitted

Grantsburg Elementary second-grade students Evan Taylor, Davin Bottelson and Finn Spitzer posed behind Cat in the Hat cutouts for fun Dr. Seuss Day photos.

Victor Hess was ready to enjoy his Cat in the Hat snack he and his fellow classmates made in Mrs. Brigg’s room.

First-grader Kinsley Danielson held up a favorite Dr. Seuss book, “Green Eggs and Ham.”

First-grader Matthew Whatley held up a sign exclaiming his distaste for green eggs and ham while Lucy Powell’s big smile showed she thought the colorful dish was delish.

Elementary and Nelson School Principal Elizabeth Olson visited Mrs. Alden’s first-grade classroom to read a story.

Lauren Hallberg and Dane Moore, students in Mrs. Briggs’ second-grade class, showed off their totally tacky attire donned for Tacky Word Day. Tacky is a second-grade vocabulary word from the book “Tacky the Penguin.”
**SCF man has a job at bottom of the world**

South Pole summers are most always below zero

**SOUTH POLE** - Kevin Miner of St. Croix Falls knows he won’t have to worry about the stability of ice where he works, as his work station sits atop an ice sheet that is 9,000 feet thick.

Miner, the father of St. Croix Falls Middle-schoolers Kenneth Miner, 13, and Azalea Miner, 11, and a bus driver for the SCF School District, has been traveling to the South Pole for the past four years, where he spends from late October to mid-February as a heavy equipment operator at the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station, one of three permanent research facilities in the United States Antarctic Program.

**2018 marked the first year that both of Northwest Passage’s treatment programs – Riverside and Prairieview – had their own dedicated Equine Assisted Growth and Learning teams located directly on their campuses.**

Prior to this intervention, each child residing at Riverside during the summer months was engaged in equine assisted psychotherapy. The team was able to incorporate equine learning into every Dialectical Behavioral Therapy skills group. The Alcohol and Other Drug Addiction group went to the arena, feeding the horses and making sure they had water. At Prairieview, a trauma-focused group was piloted that the participants dubbed “Triple H – Horses, Humans, Hope.” This group utilized the collaboration of expressive arts teacher Molly Thompson and therapist Gina Lundervold-Foley to join the interventions of psychoeducation, art and equine learning. The equine team was also available to support both individual and family therapy throughout the summer months. In addition, this fall each treatment team in the Prairieview program had the opportunity to experience equine intervention firsthand as they engaged in team building with their co-workers.

Equine therapy could not happen without the support of each treatment team, the “herd” and other staff and co-workers.

**Burnett County - 2018 marked the first year** that both of Northwest Passage’s treatment programs – Riverside and Prairieview – had their own dedicated Equine Assisted Growth and Learning teams located directly on their campuses.

Kayla Rinkel, LMFT, led the herd at the Riverside campus and Angela Fredrickson, LCSW, coordinated the intervention at the Prairieview campus.

Each child residing at Riverside during the summer was engaged in equine assisted psychotherapy. The team was able to incorporate equine learning into every Dialectical Behavioral Therapy skills group. The Alcohol and Other Drug Addiction group went to the arena, feeding the horses and making sure they had water. At Prairieview, a trauma-focused group was piloted that the participants dubbed “Triple H – Horses, Humans, Hope.” This group utilized the collaboration of expressive arts teacher Molly Thompson and therapist Gina Lundervold-Foley to join the interventions of psychoeducation, art and equine learning. The equine team was also available to support both individual and family therapy throughout the summer months. In addition, this fall each treatment team in the Prairieview program had the opportunity to experience equine intervention firsthand as they engaged in team building with their co-workers.

Equine therapy could not happen without the support of each treatment team, the “herd” and other staff and co-workers.

**Plan may include weekend and evening hours**

Jenny Peek - WPR News

**MADISON** – Gov. Tony Evers is ordering state transportation officials to come up with a plan to expand hours at state Division of Motor Vehicle offices so people can have an easier time renewing driver’s licenses and identification cards for voting.

Evers issued an executive order Monday, March 4, telling the state Department of Transportation to deliver the plan by the end of the year. According to the order, the plan may include keeping DMV offices open on weekends and evenings and building new offices accessible by public transit.

Transportation officials will have to update efforts to inform DMV visitors how they can obtain identification for voting, including publishing instructions in multiple languages. They will also have to submit reports assessing the availability of documents required to obtain IDs and listing DMV accessibility improvements.
Becky Strabel | Staff writer

GRANTSBURG – There are many ways to measure time: minutes, days, years, eons and fractions in between. If you calculate the average life span of an American like Dr. Blaise Vitale does, you would find that it equals about 30,000 days. So, when the Grantsburg doc hit 20,000 days on Earth, he wanted to do something epic. Vitale explains, “The first 10,000 days, or about 27 years, is one’s youth and the next 10,000 are middle age.” He knows there is no guarantee of 30,000 days, and since losing both parents and an older sister in the past few years, he has become more aware of this. He said, “It was time for me to do some life evaluation and to take an extended break from my practice.” So, Vitale tied on a pair of hiking boots and hit the Appalachian Trail on his 20,000th day, also known as March 29, 2018, or “the start of the third and final stage of my life — old age. I started on that day to remind myself to make the most of the last 10,000 days,” reasons Vitale.

Preparation

His wife, Suzanne, gave him a passive nod of approval several years ago when he mentioned hiking the entire 2,200 miles of the AT. The trail follows the Appalachian Mountain range from Mount Katahdin in central Maine to Springer Mountain in northern Georgia. A hiker can tally 14 states off a bucket list. Vitale researched trails for close to 10 years. He studied trail guides, hikers journals, reviews for every piece of equipment, and determined the maximum weight of this backpack. Everything was scrutinized, like the need for an extra pair of glasses or razor – neither made the cut. After adding five to six days’ of food and one liter of water, his backpack weighed 30 pounds. By the end of the trail his pack was down to 16 pounds at base weight. To document this epic adventure, Vitale carried his cellphone, which served multiple purposes. It was his camera to take pictures of breathtaking views and capture dangerous trail conditions; a compass to journal his daily mileage and insights; and maybe most importantly, a communication device to monitor the weather and to reach his family. With sketchy cell service at times, his Facebook posts that included uploaded photos, location tags and captions became a welcome addition to family and friends’ newsfeeds. His social media followers increased as he added miles throughout 2018. Combining hundreds of miles on the treadmill and various hiking trails in New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and California helped Vitale prepare physically for the Appalachian Trail. Locally, he ventured 40 miles, from Cushing to Danbury, on the Governor Knowles Trail, about 250 miles on the Ice Age Trail and the entire 310-mile Superior Hiking Trail in northern Minnesota. Vitale said, “The hardest part of the Superior Trail is only equivalent to the mildest part of the Appalachian Trail. Parts of the AT are extremely dangerous and shouldn’t even be considered hiking. You are really mountain climbing.”

Timing

Vitale has been a medical doctor for 30 years and at Grantsburg for the past 27 years, or 10,000 days. This timing along with becoming 20,000 days old seemed like the perfect opportunity to set out. Deciding on how to take on the 2,200 miles was something he also had to consider and weigh out. With around 5,000 people of all ages hiking the AT each year, he decided to start in the middle at the North Carolina/Virginia border and head north. Only about a thousand complete the entire course. While studying for the hike, he learned that many of those who drop out do so because of a lack of mon-
Vitale sets off on the Appalachian Trail on his 20,000th day of life, aka March 29, 2018.

There is a blaze at the top of the photo, so this must be the hiking trail that includes only a straight-down controlled descent. The positive is that the rocks weren’t wet.

Blaise Vitale runs into another obstacle on the trail. The 2,200-mile Appalachian Trail is one of the longest hiking trails in the United States.

Blaise Vitale runs into another obstacle on the trail. The 2,200-mile Appalachian Trail is one of the longest hiking trails in the United States.

While hiking, Blaise Vitale was able to meet up with family and friends in New York, and he made several trail friends along the way as well. He met up with a group who called themselves “The Grumpy Old Men” and also ran into the eight-member Crawford family. Outside the Standing Bear Hostel just before the Great Smoky Mountains in North Carolina are (L to R): Trailblazer, Vitale; Olo, from Minnesota; Skeleton Santa, from Oregon; and Wind Rider and River Dance, from Georgia. The group finished the trail together.

Reflection

“It was a rainy year and it wore on a person. You were always wet. There were daily rains and then it would be humid,” remembers Vitale. “Cold and snow is one thing, but the rain was another.” He was also in the area during Hurricane Florence and had to deal with her too. He would also change how he flip-flopped the hike. He appreciated the more mature hikers and not them that were on the trail to just party or “find themselves.” He did enjoy meeting people along the trail and stayed at the very comfortable Rattle River Lodge and Hostel owned by St. Croix Falls native Erik Barstow who completed the AT in June 2017. Vitale encountered the Crawford family, a family of eight whose children range in age from toddler to teen. They completed the trail in six months.

For the health of it

He isn’t done walking. Vitale knows that exercise is good for one’s health. In fact, his prediabetes symptoms have gone away along with 34 pounds while on the AT. He has plans to do the Border Route Trail this fall when there aren’t any bugs. The 67 miles from Ely, Minnesota to Grand Portage is not maintained. He is also planning on hiking the Pacific Crest Trail in 2020, dividing it into quarters and being on the path for about a month at a time. He says some hikers have written that the first third of the trip is “physical” as you get accustomed to the trail. The second section as “mental” when some hikers wonder why they are doing it, and the third and final section as “spiritual,” where hikers reflect on their bigger purpose and how to make the most of their life. “You can’t prevent getting old, but you can be sure to do something epic,” summarized Trailblazer. Vitale will be providing a sermon at 9:30 a.m., this Sunday, March 10, at Faith Lutheran Church in Grantsburg. He will be speaking on the spiritual journey of the adventure which will also be broadcast on 100.9 FM at the same time.

Photos submitted

Snakes could be found along the trail. Some weren’t anything to be concerned about but others posed more of a threat.

Portions of the Appalachian Trail include handmade steps to help a person down the treacherous trail.
Fish fry is a Friday tradition that has been going on for ages. Ah, so much, learn how to make. Beer was one of the major part of my diet in college, no problem there. But now there are hundreds of flavors with different ingredients and brewing processes available, good- ness. Growing up, I always loved eating fish – group per, fixed-era, sauries, mostly steamed and eaten whole... But now, the choices of fish are – cod, wall-eye, smelt or perch... beer-battered or pan-fried? Another challenge there. Bowling has never been a problem. To me, scoring over 100 is pretty good. Can’t compare with those with 250 to 300 each game. Must be the beer.

Anyway, back to Sir Smoke A Lot. It opened the first part of January, at a previously empty building close to Swank’s Meat on Hwy. 8. It is shaped like a lighthouse and I never dream that someone would turn it into a BBQ restaurant. So, out of curiosity, I stopped by and checked the place out. Hopefully I would have something different than those who claim that they are “World Famous BBQ.” Theowers, Brian and Mia Anderson, were busy tak- ing care of customers. Lucky me, it was the second day after they opened for business and there was a line waiting almost for the entire day. I waited my turn and ordered some ribs. Unlike other ribs joints, which loaded the ribs with barbecue sauce, the ribs...
I am a mess around dogs lately. My dog, Milo, died last year. My husband, Peter, and I were given the travel we do, getting a new dog was not a sensible thing to do. (Although I’m not sure what being sensible has to do with dogs.) So, I am without a pet, and while it is sensible, it is also a little lonely. But nearly every day on my walk I encounter a dog and, while I feel a little sorry for the dog’s owner, it’s not my fault. I need my dog fix.

I recently read an advice column (you don’t want to know how many advice columns I read) that suggested it was rude to talk to a dog and not its owner. But I don’t want to be accused of rudeness, so now I try to say something perfunctory to the dog and move on.

“How’s it going?” I say, without waiting for an answer.

The dog replies: “Oh! Are you going for a walk!? Do you like the snow!?! Are you a good snow dog!?! Aren’t you a good snow dog!?! Yes, you are.”

The owner stands by, embarrassed.

Walking in the woods, I frequently encounter dogs off leash. They run ahead a few yards to scout things out. Then they see me.Suddenly, they are not so

Put a fork in hunger!

If money is tight over these winter months when the cost to heat your home is high, consider visiting a local food pantry to reduce what you are spending on heating. Below are the local food pantries, 715-496-3121, to see if you are eligible and to get help with your heating bills. Below are the local food pantries, 715-496-3121, to see if you are eligible and to get help with your heating bills.

**Healthy Minute**

Healthy Minute is brought to you by healthyburnett.org.

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Frederic Luck ACS Sole Burner kick-off is Friday, March 29

FREDERIC - The Frederic-Luck ACS Sole Burner Walk/Run kickoff breakfast meeting will be held Friday, March 29, at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 507 Wisconson Ave. N., in the Upper Fireside Room, at 7:30 a.m.

Frederic, Luck and Amery ACS Sole Burner team captains are cordially invited to attend this meeting and join the walk. Registration forms and additional information will be available at the meeting.

Spring is just around the corner, we hope, and so is the Frederic-Luck American Cancer Society Sole Burner Walk/Run. Plan ahead and set aside Saturday, May 11, for this big event. The walk can be a fun family experience and a healthy way to help a worthy cause. It is also a chance for the Frederic, Luck and Amery communities to rally together and support cancer survivors, help fund education and raise money to eliminate cancer in the future.

The ACS Sole Burner is also an important way to support community services and local organizations. For the third year, the event will be held at the Frederic-6-12 School, 1437 Clam Falls Drive, Frederic. Walk participants may choose a 2-, 3- or 5-mile route.

Refreshments will be available and each participant who raises at least $60 may choose to receive a T-shirt. Pre-registration is $10 and registration on the day of the event who raises at least $60 may choose to receive a T-shirt. FH decorations will be available to honor at both banks in Frederic after the kickoff and in Luck at the Luck Pharmacy. Luck Clinic and the library.

Many Frederic and Luck businesses will be selling paper cutouts of athletic shoes for $1 and displaying them in their windows or the interior of their stores. Frederic and Luck area businesses may purchase a “sign of Hope” for $35. The signs will be placed along the walk route with the name of the business. The signs are a great way to advertise and support the walk.

The American Cancer Society is a nationwide, community-based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy and service.” The ACS offers hope, progress and answers.

For further information on the Frederic-Luck ACS Sole Burner Walk/Run, contact Elvira at 715-653-2848.

For cancer information and resources call 800-ACS-2345 or visit the website at cancer.org

Compiled by Sue Renno

50 years ago

Suzanne Fosmo was chosen for the DAR Good Citizen Award from Siren High School—Daniel Carlson, Chequamegon-Fredric; and Cyde DesVos and Paul Lindberg, Grantsburg; were Burnett County men drafted for military service in February—Residents of Ishpeming said the clackers in that town, if not the whole state, would be enough to make the decision to close the school at the end of the 1968-69 school year, with the stipulation that an administrator or executive would meet with the Lorain Town Board to discuss possible use of the building as a community center—Marlene Pepper and Robert Krizner were married Jan. 24—St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church in Centuria—Lt. Charles Hersant received his captain’s bars at a military ceremony held at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, with his wife doing the honors—The new pastor of Faith Lutheran Church at Grantsburg and Bethesda Lutheran at Branson was Myron Carlson, who was married and had a 2-year-old son, Paul. They were coming to Frederic, having been with Rev. with the WITI-Superior practical nursing class and was employed by Apple River Memorial Hospital in Amery—Jeanne Rogers, of St. Croix Falls, and Richard Klatt, of Centuria, were on the dean’s list at UW-Stevens Point—Webster High School students Anita Danielson, Susan Nelson and Debbie Rakes were appointed to the state piano for the WSMA district music festival at Clayton. They were piano students of Lois Bells—Jerry Dorrort, from the Luck Clinic, was named one of the “Top Ten” Seniors from Wisconsin—Moreover, a drawing for second- through fifth-graders to win a T-shirt, for example, was done for the Luck area on the WSMA district music festival at Clayton. They were piano students of Lois Bells—Jerry Dorrort, from the Luck Clinic, was named one of the “Top Ten” Seniors from Wisconsin—Moreover, a drawing for second- through fifth-graders to win a T-shirt, for example, was done for the Luck area

40 years ago

Area students turn to participate in the 1979 Indianhead Bands Band at UW-Eau Claire were Gayle Wilson, Sharon Gacke and Gayle Svoedba, Frederic High School; Steve Wieland, Luck; and Jennifer Snapp, Grantsburg—Hagberg's Department Store and the Frederic Bottling Co. sponsored a dance for the Friday night of the 1979 Luck Skiing team will be the new Milltown Public Library had been gutted and was ready for renovation. It had been a bowling alley, a Ben Franklin store and a produce gutted and was ready for renovation. It had been a bowling alley, a Ben Franklin store and a produce

20 years ago

Shane Allen, a Grantsburg graduate, was hired as full-time police officer in Frederic, joining Chief Dan Wald and Officer Dale Johnson—Contestants for Miss Luck were Heather Peterson, Jana van der Paardt, Michelle Robbins, Micaela Linder and Danielle Brenholz—were candidates for Little Miss Luck—Ed Pedersen, who grew up in Luck, taught English at Frederic High School for 33 years and moved back to Luck when he retired, was hired to be the Luck Winter Carnival grand marshal—The building that would be the new Milltown Public Library had been gutted and was ready for renovation. It had been a bowling alley, a Ben Franklin store and a produce company before that—A van equipped with a wheelchair lift, which was dedicated to the late Paul J. Kuehl, who was involved in the Chicago Tribune were there to cover it. Doug Fontaine, 20, Maplewood, Minnesota, took first, with Dale Soderbeck, Grantsburg, coming in second.

MARCH 6, 2019 - INTER-COUNTY LEADER - NORTHERN CURRENTS, SECTION B - PAGE 5
Nona Severson

**St. Croix Valley Senior Center**

Pat Willits

Well, we will have tales to tell about this year’s winter for some time! The February of the century!

**Weekly Wag**

**Humane Society of Burnett County**

Job raising her babies but still has lots of love to give. She is good with sharing her home with dogs, cats and kids.

Viola is a sweet 7-month-old kitty who is also looking for a place to call her own. She gets along well with dogs, cats and children. Viola has lovely golden color that is sure to brighten any gloomy day. She is a bit timid but has a loving nature and many great years ahead of her.

It has been decided to have a Good Friday breakfast here at the center on April 19. More information will be coming when I hear more details. Steve Ward will be in charge of the breakfast. If you care to make any donations, please contact Steve. He can be reached at Pastor Steve Ward, 27377 Earl Williams Drive, Webster 54693.

Mark on your calendars Saturday, April 27, as this will be the date we will have our 50 card cash prizes, please drop them all at the center and put my name on the item. Thank you!

The schedule for the weather this week has been crazy, with the weather making decisions of whether we are open or closed. Hopefully everyone was safe this week. I was the lucky winner for Dine Bingo. I won $15.

The decorating crew will be in on Monday change.

**Siren Senior Center**

Nona Severson

**ST. PAUL, Minn. — Hulance University congratulates all who received the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference academic all-conference honors for the fall semester. Shelly Butterfield, a junior, and Freiderich was one of 27 Piperes received by the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Norwegian.**

**MMC academic all-conference student-athletes are seniors, juniors or who have studied for at least two years at their current institution. Recipient students met all academic criteria as well as earned a cumulative grade-point average of 3.5 or better.**

**MANKATO, Minn. — The academic high honorees and honor lists, aka dean's lists, for the past fall semester at Minnesota State University, Mankato, have been announced by Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Marilyn Wells. Among the 1,034 students, a total of 879 students qualified for the high honor list by achieving a 4.0 grade-point average, while 2,401 students earned a 3.5 or 3.95 average as well as for the honor list.**

**Clear Lake**

Toni Bielen, junior, honor list, family and consumer science.

Dresser

Ashley Hustad, sophomore, honor list, dental hygiene; Tannor Johnson, honor list, honor list, civil engineering; Grace Ulrich, sophomore, honor list, marketing.

Grantsburg

McKenzie Dienzen, sophomore, honor list, nursing.

Osceola

Lauren Gagli, sophomore, honor list, nursing.

Emily Johnson, senior, honor list, gender and women’s studies; Allen Johnson, honor list, sociology; Mackenzie Quigley, freshman, honor list, exercise science; Emily Robinson, sophomore, honor list, marketing; Jordan Vester, sophomore, honor list, mechanical engineering.

**DUBUQUE, Iowa — The University of Dubuque congratulates Sydney Steingodt, on being named to the Academic All-Duquesne’s list.**

The 500 winners for Sunday, Feb. 24, were Ray Catlett, of St. Croix Falls; John Pak, of Turtle Lake; and the Grass of Life, of Elk Mound.

To set an appointment to meet in person to discuss all the ways that you can help, call the shelter at 715-349-2964.

*Treasures can be dropped off at the Midtown Road Goodwill, 100 Midtown Road, in Eau Claire. A boy, Wyatt Jacob Doty, born Feb. 23, 2019, to Kevin and Katelyn Doty, of Chisago City, Minn. Owen weighed 7 lbs., 14 oz.

A girl, Layla Mae Lamb, born Feb. 20, 2019, to Jamie and Justin Lamb, of Stillwater, Minn. Layla weighed 8 lbs., 10 oz.

A boy, Owen Warren Knuth, born Feb. 19, 2019, to Destinie Kobs and Daniel Eliason, of Mill City, Minn. Owen weighed 6 lbs., 11 oz.

A girl, Malakai Scott Eliason, born Feb. 15, 2019, to Amy and Chad Elmer, of Amery. Everett weighed 6 lbs., 11 oz.


A boy, Kane Michael Knuth, born Feb. 6, 2019, to Brittni Roth and Brandon Brinn, of Turtle Lake. Kane weighed 8 lbs., 9 oz.

How many of you, like me, look out the window each day wondering if those huge mountains of snow will ever go? They seem to get bigger every day. But white stuff finally melts there are going to be many of us that have taken in the view. Let’s hope no one has water in their basement. Maybe it will be a slow melt this spring and just soak into the ground.

**Siren news**

Bev Beckmark 715-349-2964

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Jasper is a 2-year-old pug American bulldog mix. He is medium size, about the size of a cocker spaniel, 40 pounds. He looks like a miniature bulldog with a curly tail. He is very loving and is a shaker. He likes to be busy, the center of attention and part of everything you do. He knows a few commands and works well for treats. His antics for more may be too much for young children but he loves everyone! He would make an excellent companion for a single-dog home although he has lived with other dogs of all sizes and loved to play with them. Jasper has a lot of character and personality in his compact little body. He makes an adorable Prints while relaxing on the couch. His belly and you are his instant best buddy. Jasper is the positive, up-and-at-em energy you have been missing.

Winter is the slow season at Arnell animal shelter. Fewer dogs and cats are wandering away from their homes for adventure. With fewer animals coming in, kennels remain open after adoption and there is the number of available pets is limited. It is a wel-

Happiness Awaits
Amell Humane Society of Polk County

Grantsburg Senior Center
Patzy Wente

Are you tired of it? If it isn’t snowing, it is bitter cold. I think the groundhog got mixed up with his predictions.

Sixteen players came for Dime Bingo and enjoyed the treats furnished by Judy. Andy and Peggy split the big pot.

Jasper

San Antonio, Texas - U.S. Air Force National Guard Arm Ralph R. Glover graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio - Lackland, Texas, Feb. 28. Glover completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies. Air Force core values, dedication to duty, and personal development. Glover, who completed basic training also earn four credits toward an associate degree in applied science at the University of the Air Force. Glover is the daughter of Jon Glover of Burnsville, Minnesota, and Stett Glover of Grantsburg. She is a 2016 graduate of Grantsburg High School.

Lenten and Easter services set
Grantsburg – New Hope Lutheran Church will hold Lenten services every Wednesday, March 13 through April 10. The sermons will be on the themes of “Overheard – Conversations with Jesus on Ash Wednesday,” The first service will be at 11 a.m. with lunch following, and the second service will be at 7 p.m. with a soup supper at 5:45 p.m. Holy Week services include a choir cantata Palm Sunday, April 14, at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.; Maundy Thursday service April 18 at 7 p.m., following a supper at 5:45 p.m.; Good Friday service April 19 at noon; and Easter Sunday services April 21 at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.

Bethesda Lutheran Church will hold Lent services every Wednesday through April 10 at 7 p.m. A Maundy Thursday service will be held April 18 at 7 p.m. Easter Day services will be held April 19 at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Want A Brighter Smile?


News from the service

NW Cleansweep announces spring hazardous waste collections
NORTHWEST WISCONSIN - The Northwest Clean sweep hazardous waste “mil run” program, which is de-

Penny is a 2½-year-old German shorthair pointer-black Lab-hound mix. She loves to be petted and gazed at. She has a thick, black, wrinkled coat. She is a friendly, happy dog that loves to walk. She is quite a gal.

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Many thanks to the Hayes family in the town of Wisconsin and Forts Avoine Historical Park, in conjunction with the Wisconsin Humanities Council, invite the public to attend. This has been a learning experience for all participants. The next scheduled events will be served in the Forts Avoine Historical Park and at the New Wisconsin Village.

Winter wigwam dedication
March 22 at Forts
DANBURY - On Friday, March 22, at Forts Folle Avoine Historic Park, a winter wigwam dedication ceremony will take place from 3 to 6 p.m., at the In the Village of Nauvoo, Illinois.

The St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin and Forts Folle Avoine His-
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Grantsburg Public Library

Preschool story time
On Wednesday, March 13, 10:30 a.m., preschoolers and their caregivers are invited to join Lauren Finch of Crew Meadows Wildlife Center for a fun and educational story time.

Pot of gold reading prizes
March 1-16, in honor of Patrick’s Day, library customers who check out three books can pick a surprise from our pot of gold!

Local author and historian book signing
Saturday, March 23, 10 a.m. room Sue Seigelstrom for a book-signing event. She’ll be signing her new book “Wild Blueberries: From Meadow to Market.” It explores the blueberry industry in the Grantsburg area, and the legendary locomotive, the Blueberry Special. This event is free and everyone is welcome to attend.

Book clubs
Join a lively discussion of literary fiction! Two book clubs meet at the library; one group meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. The other group meets on the third Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. Stop by the library to pick up a copy of this month’s book selections.

Items coming soon...
Books
• “The Victory Garden” by Rhys Bowen
• “Wolf Pack” by C.J. Box
• “The Golden Treasures of the Dead” by Alan Bradley
• “Run Away” by Harlan Coben
• “The Crooked Street” by Brian Freeman
• “An Anonymous Girl” by Greer Hendricks
• “The Last Girls of Paris” by Pam Jenoff
• “Dark Tribute” by Iris Johansen
• “One Man’s Wilderness” by Sam Keith

Youth books
• “Croc & Turtle” by Mike Wohnsaku
• “Hello Lightbule” by Sophie Blackall
• “Hurricane Heroes in Texas” by Mary Pope Osborne
• “One Third Nest” by Gennifer Choldenko
• “Shout” by Laurie Halse Anderson

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Friends of the Library
Upcoming events
• The Second Saturday Used Book Sale is Saturday, March 9, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
• The Friends “Wild Rice and Berries” cookbook is now for sale at $6.

AARP Tax Aides
AARP tax preparation specialists will be available at the library to help you prepare your taxes on Mondays and Wednesdays. A few April appointments are still available. You may make an appointment by calling the library at 715-866-7697.

Federal and state tax forms
We have Wisconsin and Federal tax forms available. There is a new format you may not be familiar with – there is now only one standard tax form for all people – no longer the long form, short form and EZ form.

Book club
Our March 26 book club selection is ‘A Gentleman in Moscow’ by Amor Towles. “In 1922, Count Alexander Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, and is sentenced to spend the rest of his days in an undefined house – ‘the Small House of Munyovka’ – without leaving the walls of its small garden. Unexpectedly, his reduced circumstances provide him entry into a much larger world of emotional discovery.” (from Amazon.com)

Nonfiction
• “The People of Minnesota: Ojibwe in Minnesota” by Anton Treuer

Juvenile
• “Where Is Our Solar System?” by Stephanie Sabol
• “Destination Space: Living On Other Planets” by Dr. Dave Williams

• “Me and My Place in Space” by Joan Sweeney
• “Go For Liftoff! How to Train Like an Astronaut” by Dr. Dave Williams
• “8 Little Planets” by Chris Ferrie
• “Me and My Place in Space” by Joan Sweeney
• “Destination Space: Living On Other Planets” by Dr. Dave Williams

• “Rocket Ship Adventure” by Shannon Sweeney
• “Pegasus: Pony with a Broken Wing” by Erin Rose Wage
• “DK Find Out! Space Travel” by Dorling Kindersley

Audio books on CD
• “All In” by Shelly Shepard Gray
• “A Willing Murder” by Jude Deveraux
• “A Justice Murder” by Jude Deveraux

Large print
• “A Willing Murder” by Jude Deveraux
• “The Lost Castle” by Kristy Cambron
• “Watching You” by Lisa Jewell
• “The Only Woman in the Room” by Marie Benedict
• “The Bookshop” by Laura Taylor

Young adult
• “Oh the Come Up” by Angie Thomas
• “We are Displaced” by Malala Yousafzai

DVD
• “Pegasus: Pony with a Broken Wing”
• “Dr. Who, the Complete 11th Season”
• “The Hate U Give”
• “A Star is Born” • “At Eternal’s Gate”
• “First Man”
• “Celebrating Mickey”

Hours and information
Library hours are Monday - Thursday, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. For more information, contact the library at 715-866-7697, website: webster.wislib.org. Online catalog: merlin.nwls.lib.wi.us/search.
Good behavior + good grades = Luck students to be proud of

LUCK - The Cardinal Intelligence Agency was created at Luck High School 27 years ago as a program to recognize students’ perfect attendance and reward academic excellence and student achievement. This means that it is a student achievement incentive program. Its concept is to recognize students with short-term, tangible incentives, just as is done in the world of business with employees. The incentives are earned on a quarterly basis. Depending upon a student’s grades from the previous grading period and his/her behavior during those nine weeks, the student who has chosen to be a part of this program may be enrolled as a member at one of four levels. This was the first quarter that the freshmen were eligible to earn cards.

The Cardinal Intelligence Agency attempts to promote the goal of preparing lifelong learners and responsible citizens by recognizing students’ perfect attendance and by requiring that positive behavior be one of the cornerstones of the C.I.A. program. This program is successful because of the support of local businesses. The Luck staff extends gratitude to the following sponsors: AJ’s Time and Repair, Bella Salon and Day Spa, El Stinko Portable Toilets LLC, Hack’s Pub, HealthPartners, Jensen Furniture, Kelch Concessions, Luck Clinic – Amery Hospital, Love Hoo You Are Hair Salon, Luck Dental Clinic, Luck Do It Best Hardware, Luck Lumber, Luck Mutual Insurance, Luck Pharmacy, Luck Public Schools, Luck Saddlery and Outfitters, Mary Kay Cosmetics (Rep. Susan Gregory), Maxwell Heating, McKenzie Lanes, New Wave Salon, Olson Sewer Service, Poll-Burnett Electric Co-op, Quanex, Schaffer Manufacturing, St. Croix Valley Hardwoods, Trollhaugen, United Pioneer Home, Van Meter Meats and Wilkins Bone Lake Bar and Resort.

An asterisk indicates that this is the 10th red or gold card earned by the student.

Bennett Jensen**; Levi Jensen, Gage Johansen, Max Kerner, Rose King**, Julia Olien, Hunter Sellent, Jade Swanson* and Lydia Uhlig.

Sophomores


Freshmen


CIA first- and 10th-time card and shirt earners are (L to R): Cassie Johnson, Mckenna Delany, Bennett Jensen, Cassie Johnson, Max Kerner, Riley Runnels and Grace Thoreson.

Perfect attendance for first semester

Seniors

Isaac Todd

Juniors

Mckenna Delany, Cassie Johnson, Max Kerner, Riley Runnels and Grace Thoreson.

Academic letters were presented to Luck High School students recently. The students who receive an academic letter have maintained a grade-point average of 3.5 for three consecutive grading periods. Students continuing to maintain the 3.5 grade-point average are recognized with Lamps of Learning, which can be attached to the academic letters. Academic letter earners are front (L to R): Shayla Hulett, Sierra Zuniga, Merlin Hibbs, Britta Hibbs, Gabrielle Engstrand, Alexis Marcellus and Caleb Greener. Back: Grace Jensen, Juliana Olave, Alexis Kelch, Adeline Thompson and Kelsey Harvey. Missing: Andrew Lemieux.

Freshmen

Audrie Amos, Chandler Arjes, Madelyn Becker, Brooke Chappelear, Britta Duheomb, Brayden Eder, Rebecca Gaspord, Macy Johnson, Brayden Lindoff, Coral Melin, Sophia Sauersessig, Ella Tretvsen and Terry Van Atta.

Sophomores

Alexis Greener, Caleb Greener, Grace Jensen and Adeline Thompson.

Freshmen

Audrie Amos, Hailey Bloom, Brayden Eder, Macy Johnson and Caleb Nick.

School staff and students are proud of the students who were recognized with academic letters.

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Luck sixth-graders energize a love of reading

Luck sixth-grader Thomas Gavinski presents his book, “Tucker,” during the recent reading fair. The goal for this reading fair was to energize readers and to share great books with others. - Photos by Lori Nelson
Polk County Special Olympics

MENOMONIE - On Sunday, Feb. 17, the four Polk County Special Olympic basketball teams, along with several skills players, competed at UW-Stout in Menomonie. Cougars took third place, Pacers took third place and the Rockets took second place. The Lakers won first place in their division and will advance to Stevens Point. Teams winning at least one game were put in a drawing for a chance to advance. All three other Polk County teams did so and were put in a drawing, with the Pacers getting drawn out. They will advance to play in sectionals in Stevens Point Sunday, March 17, with the Lakers.

Photos submitted

The Polk County Cougars are pictured back (L to R): Kelly McDaniel, Osceola; and Makinzie Miller, Osceola; Brianna Paulson, Clear Lake. Middle row: Justin Spafford and Joe Stauner, Deer Park. Front: Kayson Johnson, Clayton; Jackson Bean, Osceola; and Oscar Rauch-Bordgerling, Osceola. Not pictured: Coach Leanne Richter.

The Polk County Lakers are pictured back (L to R): Randy Anderson, Amery; Chris Richter, Frederic; Charlie Casarez, Amery; Scott Cummings, Osceola; and coach Pat Meier. Front: Steven Kicker, Osceola; Russell Anderson, Clayton; and DJ King, Clear Lake.

The Polk County Pacers are pictured back (L to R): Assistant coach Casey, Ethan Hagman, Christina Satre, Turtle Lake; Matthew Knowlton, Clayton; Schenie Adams and coach Andy Anderson. Front: Carson Jones-Anderson, Clayton; Jarvis Warwas, Frederic; and Toby Adams, Clayton.

The Polk County Snoeshow Special Olympians ended a great season on Sunday, Feb. 10, in Wausau. Snoeshow team pictured back (L to R): Russell Anderson, Clayton; coach Cindy Eggers; Dalton Marlowe, Turtle Lake; Jason Neidermire, East Farmington; Crystal Fougner, Amery; Tim Eggers, Frederic; and Coach Dave Neidermire. Front: Ethan Schroeder, Clayton.

RIGHT: The Polk County Snoeshow Special Olympians ended a great season on Sunday, Feb. 10, in Wausau. Snoeshow team pictured back (L to R): Russell Anderson, Clayton; coach Cindy Eggers; Dalton Marlowe, Turtle Lake; Tim Eggers, Frederic; Jason Neidermire, East Farmington; Devin Orton, town of Eureka; Crystal Fougner, Amery; and coach Pat Meier. Front: Carson Jones-Anderson, Clayton; Allen Boe, Amery; Jordan Anderson, Clayton; Ethan Schroeder, Clayton; and Shelly Anderson, St. Croix Falls.
Sock Hop at Frederic

Decorations were done with help from local artist Lynda Wood.

Heidi Carey came to the Frederic Sock Hop at the 300 Club dressed for the ‘50s.

Hardy souls braved the snow and cold on Friday, March 1, at Frederic’s 300 Club for the sock hop to raise funds for the Frederic Public Library and have some food and fun.

Thank you to the following for their support:
- Thrivent Lutheran
- Daeffler’s Quality Meats
- Frederic Concessions
- Northwoods Bakery
- Knauer & Lundquist Farms
- Pioneer & Skol Bars
- Earl Wilson w/Burnett Dairy Cheese
- Friends of the Library
- Frederic Royalty
- Rose Garden

It was a “Rock’n & Roll’n” fun night!!!

WEBSTER LIONS WELCOME NEW BUSINESS, DONATE TO SCOUTS

The Webster Lions are happy to welcome another area business to their membership. Yellow River Saloon and Eatery is the most recent addition. Pictured is Heather McPheeters, owner of Yellow River, with her sponsor, Lion John Vandergon. - Photos submitted

Webster Lions President Dewey Hartley presents a check for $1,000 to Dan Campion, scoutmaster for Troup 564. Campion expressed his gratitude and explained that the generous donation from the Webster Lions Club will be used to expand the program to not only include more adventures (rock climbing, Minnesota Zoo visit, Science Museum of Minnesota, canoeing, camping, Camp Tomahawk and state park hiking trips) but will also be used to purchase additional camping gear for his expanding troop. At this time there are eight active boys; they just added two girls and expect four more boys to “crossover” from Cub Scouts to the troop in March.
Unity’s tech ed program continues to grow

BALSAM LAKE - Unity’s tech ed department has been continually growing over the last few years. Dual credit WITC classes were made available beginning last year. Next year students will also be able to get advanced standing with WITC in building information, modeling and woods classes.

This is a huge advantage for students thinking of going into a program at WITC after graduating. Students who earn a dual credit do not have to pay for or take that class at WITC. For advanced-standing courses, students get a discount on the coinciding WITC class.

There are several new classes being offered next year in the tech ed department as well. The class formerly known as Woods II will now be Cabinetmaking. In that class, students will go more in depth into cabinet/furniture design and construction than they could in Woods II.

Students will also learn a mix of classic joinery along with more industrial manufacturing concepts. Another class being offered is Design in the Shop. This class is geared for the student who is creative and wants to use that creativity to design and create projects in the shop in wood, metal, recycled materials, and maybe even 3D printing. Finally, the newest class offered next year might be the most exciting - Jobsite Construction. Students who have completed the construction class and are OSHA 10 certified and can spend two hours per day on a job site with a local contractor. These students will get firsthand experience working with a licensed contractor in the trade while earning credit in high school.

Besides the tech ed department growing, the Skills USA chapter in Unity is also growing. It has increased from nine members last year to 15 this year. Students attended the fall leadership conference and competed in the district competition at Chetek-Weyerhaeuser where Mellisa Valleen placed third in photography. At the end of this month, nine of these students will be traveling to Menomonie to compete in the regional competition. Two teams will be competing in the team engineering challenge, while others will be competing in Prepared speech, photography and power equipment technology. Wish them luck!

Natalie Mansheim also entered a state pin design competition through Skills USA but the results won’t be shared until the state conference at the end of April. With all these events going on, the Skills students have come up with a unique fundraiser on May 18. They will be putting on a car show at Unity! Keep your eyes open for more information coming soon.

With all the exciting things planned for this year and next, who knows what will be coming in the Unity tech ed department in the future. If these last few years have been any indication, there should be some even more amazing things to come. If you have any questions or would like to help the tech ed department at all, please contact Mr. Lee at jlee@unity.k12.wi.us.
Family Days button design contest announced

FREDERIC - The Frederic Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to invite all ages to participate in the 2019 Frederic Family Days button design contest. The button contest is open to all Frederic area residents. There will be two designs chosen that will be made into buttons.

The contest design is open to all Frederic area residents. There will be two designs chosen that will be made into buttons.

The contest button design criteria:

- **Button design must be round.**
- **Date of celebration must be on the button, June 13-16.**
- **Frederic Family Days must be on the button.**
- **Designs must be submitted on an 8.5-by-11-inch sheet of white paper in the shape of a circle or on a template that can be found at the following locations: Bremer Bank, U.S. Bank, Bank’s Country Griddle, Frederic Library, info@fredericcareachamber.com or fredericlibrary.org.**
- **Each entry should include name, age and contact phone number, email is optional.**
- **All entries become the property of the Frederic Chamber.**
- **Designs can be submitted to the Frederic Elementary School office or delivered to Frederic Library at 127 Oak St. W. on Main Street. If you prefer, you may mail your entry to: Frederic Library, P.O. Box 700, Frederic, WI 54837. All entries will be on display for public vote through the month of April. Winners will be notified and announced in the Inter-County Leader the first week of May. This year’s button will be on sale for $3 before and during Family Days weekend.**

**Learn to use wild plants for food and more, class this Monday**

BALSAM LAKE – On Monday, March 11, the Friendly Forager, Tanna Worrell, of Centuria, will present her program on identifying and harvesting wild plants and herbs. Her program will get participants connected to the foods literally in their backyards and using them for teas and healing salves as well as food. She will also have plant identification cards for sale. Please join the Polk County Master Gardener Volunteer Groups at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 11, at the Polk County Government Center in Balsam Lake. As always, their programs and speakers are provided at no cost to the public. If you have any questions, call Sally at 715-268-2929 or Jackie at 715-268-8766.
A big question that is important to ponder is what role do God’s gifts have in the life of a believer? God has a wonderful design for his gifts, but there are two opposite errors that must be avoided. These errors are two different types of idolatry. One is the idolatry of indulgence. This is when we turn God’s gifts into gods. The other error is self-made religion. This is where God’s gifts are not enjoyed because we think it is godly to refuse them. Christians may find themselves wrestling with either one of these. But what I desire to address in this article is God’s design for his gifts in this world. It is important to understand this in order to deepen our relationship with the Lord. What we must understand is that God gives us his gifts with the purpose of pointing us to him. There is something special about giving a gift to someone. The true delight of the receiver of the gift comes from appreciating the giver of the gift. We can only properly say we enjoyed the gift we have the giver in mind. The same goes for God’s gifts in this world. God wants us to point others to him through receiving his gifts.

The reason God created the world was to display his glory. In one sense God is in his creation. It is important to emphasize that he is distinct from it, but he is in his creation. The Bible reveals that God has a plan that is about the achievements of humanity. We cannot disconnect God from his created work. His glory is displayed everywhere in what he has made. This is why people need to enjoy God through creation. By taking pleasure in his created work we are taking pleasure in him. Scripture teaches us that God loves giving gifts to his children (Matthew 7:11) and that everything “created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving.” (1 Timothy 4:4) We should delight in food, family, music, the outdoors and many other gifts. As we take pleasure in God’s gifts we should say what a beautiful creature God has created this.” When we look at other humans we wonder comes over you. My prayer is that each of us will get to know him more and enjoy him more. This is how other gifts. As we take pleasure in God’s gifts we should think this back to its source – our great God. May we take pleasure in him as we enjoy his gifts.

In my last article I discussed the care of various plants. Here are some tips that you may have received for Valentine’s Day. I want to continue with a few more blooming plants that brighten a home in the winter.

African violets: These little beauties have been a staple houseplant for many years. My mom has been growing these since I was little. Women years ago regarded African violets as the typical begonia sold for this time of year; the roots are dead roots from sitting too wet or cold. Or can bloom for many months. Once they are finish dripping and then place it back in its location. Orchids come in a variety of types and need to be thoroughly watered once or twice a week. A good way to water an orchid is to take it to the sink and use your hand to water the roots. Orchids are easy to grow in a sunny location. Orchids come in a variety of types and colors. Orchids are grown in a bark/peat mixture and need to be thoroughly watered once or twice a week. A good way to water an orchid is to take it to your kitchen sink and run water through it. Let it finish dripping and then place it back in its location. Orchids are often grown in a bark/peat mixture and need to be thoroughly watered once or twice a week. A good way to water an orchid is to take it to your kitchen sink and run water through it. Let it finish dripping and then place it back in its location.

Begonias: Begonias come in a variety of types and colors. Begonias are one of my favorite outside shade bloomers in the summertime. The Rieger begonia is the typical begonia sold for this time of year; the plant comes in many colors. They don’t like to be allowed to dry and need to be thoroughly watered once or twice a week. A good way to water an orchid is to take it to your kitchen sink and run water through it. Let it finish dripping and then place it back in its location. Begonias are a wonderful addition to any garden.

Lenten Seafood Sale COMING TO TOWN
Fri., March 8, 2019
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Silver Coin Laundry
221 S. Second St., Chetek, WI
Blue Harbor - 920-435-4633

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Seth Brickley
Eureka Baptist Church
Bruce R. Matson

Bruce R. Matson, 69, of Dresser, Wisconsin, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family on Sat-

day, March 2, 2019, at the Christian Community Home of Oesco, Wisconsin, after many months of battling a series of strokes. Bruce was born April 22, 1949, in St. Croix Falls to Alvin and Susan (Matson) Matson. He was a 1967 graduate of Unity High School and a 1971 graduate of University of Wisconsin - Superior. After work-
ing on the family farm and for Na-
tional Car Rental, Bruce opened Matson Tax Service, which he operated successfully for over 30 years. Bruce was united in marriage to Eury Ericson on April 27, 1974. He later married Carol Watt on May 28, 1988, in St. Croix Falls. Bruce enjoyed gardening, hiking, bi-
cycling, coaching soccer and spending time with his children and grandchildren. As any good Wisconsinite,

Bruce will be remembered for his love of the outdoors, fishing, hunting, gardening, and spending time with his family and friends.

Bruce was preceded in death by his first wife, Evy, in 1994; his second wife, Carol, in 2018; and his parents, Alvin and Susan Matson; wife, Carol Matson; stepdaughter, Kelly (Tate) Watts; sons, Mark (Margo) Matson and Luke (Rachel) Matson; grandchildren, Seth Watts, and Cora, Noah and Brooks Matson; sister,
ters, Valerie (Larry) Hanson and Jolene (Rich) Polosky; and his wife, Carol Matson; his parents, Alvin and Susan Matson; wife, Carol Matson; stepdaughter, Kelly (Tate) Watts; sons, Mark (Margo) Matson and Luke (Rachel) Matson; grandchildren, Seth Watts, and Cora, Noah and Brooks Matson; sister,
ters, Valerie (Larry) Hanson and Jolene (Rich) Polosky; and cousins and nephews.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, March 8, at Alliance Church of the Valley in St. Croix Falls. Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. on Thursday at Grand-

stand Funeral Home of Osceola, and one hour prior to the service at Alliance Church of the Valley. Interment will be in New Home Cemetery. Memorial donations may be given to the Alliance Church of the Valley or the American Stroke Association.

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Light of the world

As far as weather goes, it seems like the whole country has been engulfed in darkness. The relentless snows and wind made for dark days, dark thoughts and dark feelings that tend to wrap around us like a shroud. We want to be happy.

We face many more dark clouds, too. When we focus on the darkness, we see nothing but negatives: incredible self-indulgence among people; rebellion of children against authority; lack of respect; lack of a sense of responsibility; downright evil acts; and rebellion against God himself. We wonder when the darkness will ever end.

The Bible speaks of such things because such things have been perpetuated.

Don’t force your kids into activities only you care about

Q: My wife and I are trying to help our kids explore their natural talents in sports, music and other areas. But each time we mention a sports activity, the kids seem to hate it. I’m running out of ideas. What’s the trick?

Jim Daly

A: I think the biggest mistake we can make is by asking yourself: “Who’s more interested in this activity – my child, or me?” Let me share a story as an example. When my oldest son, Trent, was 5, we signed him up for T-ball. I was excited.

But after 30 minutes passed without much action, I leaned down and asked Trent, “Are you doing OK?” He replied, “Not really, Dad.” I could see his heart was in it. I asked, “Are you bitin’ your tongue wanting to say something?” He replied, “Not really, Dad.” I could see his heart was in it.

“Would you rather get a milkshake?”

“Yeah, let’s do that,” he said.

And with that, Trent’s baseball career came to an end.

Skip ahead a few years, and my son, Jim, was 13. We took him to a local baseball practice. When I asked him what he thought about the game, he said, “I think I hate it.”

I asked, “Are you bitin’ your tongue wanting to say something?” He replied, “Not really, Dad.”

“Would you rather get a milkshake?”

“Yeah, let’s do that,” he said.

And with that, Jim’s baseball career came to an end.

So the way he’s wired, and I learned a valuable lesson. There’s (usually) no cheering from the sidelines in chess. But I can be a super-proud dad watching my son apply his gifts and intellect to something he loves – and he’s good at it.

As parents, we want our children to try different activities, have fun and explore their natural talents. But it’s all too easy to steer them toward things that we enjoy instead of the ones they’d prefer. We need to constantly study our kids and watch for what excites them, even if it’s something we’re not all that interested in ourselves. And, when in doubt, ask them.

Q: I’ve heard lots of relationship experts say that passive listening is important to “listen to your spouse.” I try to do that even when I’m biting my tongue wanting to respond. But I’m still having trouble communicating. What’s the secret?

Jim Daly

A: I think the best way to do that is to make it a habit. When I’m talking, I’m talking. It’s not the time for you to be thinking about what you’re going to say next. It’s the time for you to listen.

First, stay focused. Don’t let your thoughts wander when your spouse is talking. It’s not the time for you to think about what you’ll say next (and we all struggle with this). Value your spouse by listening respectfully to what they’re telling you. To do that, don’t just hear what your spouse says; understand what they mean. If you’re not sure, wait for them to finish and then ask for clarification.

Second, use body language to demonstrate that you’re interested in what your spouse is saying. Nonverbal communication is just as important to effective dialogue as the words you use; in fact, many studies indicate that it’s much more important. So make good eye contact and let your posture show you’re open and attentive.

Finally, learn the unique ways your spouse communicates. If your spouse likes feedback, then repeat their comments back to them. If they’re not listening, let them know.

At Home

We face many more dark clouds, too. When we focus on the darkness, we see nothing but negatives: incredible self-indulgence among people; rebellion of children against authority; lack of respect; lack of a sense of responsibility; downright evil acts; and rebellion against God himself. We wonder when the darkness will ever end.

Focus on the family

Jim Daly

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Finally, learn the unique ways your spouse communicates. If your spouse likes feedback, then repeat their comments back to them. If they’re not listening, let them know.

On the other hand, your spouse may prefer you listen quietly until they’ve finished. In that case, nodding occasionally shows you’re attentive and engaged.

Active listening is a lot more than not interrupting when your spouse talks. It communicates respect by showing you care what your spouse thinks, feels and says. It’s a crucial ingredient to resolving problems and deepening your intimacy as a couple.

For more tips to help your marriage thrive, visit FocusOnTheFamily.com.

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Webster, Wis.
Phone 715-866-1131

Any area business wishing to help sponsor the church listings should contact the Leader at 715-327-4236.
Terrance Swanson has been chosen Frederic Elementary School’s student of the week. He is the son of Jake and Rob Swanson. He demonstrates exceptional classroom behavior and is a hard worker. He has a positive attitude and is kind to his classmates. He is eager to learn and always willing to help. His favorite school activities are phi ed, art and math. When he grows up, he wants to be a baseball player.

Ashi Chenal has been chosen Frederic High School’s student of the week. She is in seventh grade and the daughter of Craig Chenal and Barbara Thomas. She is a top student who works extremely hard. She is kind and very helpful. She is involved in band, volleyball, basketball, track and softball, and enjoys hunting, cooking and farming. Her favorite subject is math. She plans to attend college to become an engineer or a veterinarian.

Emma Alkin-Brow has been chosen Frederic High School’s student of the week. She is a sophomore and the daughter of Dashi and Victoria Alden. She has great attendance and is working hard to help others when she is finished with her work. She is always positive, happy, kind and respectful. She is a volleyball manager. She enjoys spending time with her family and other family. She works at the Best Western. She plans to attend a technical college.

Abel Leuk has been chosen Grantsburg Elementary School’s student of the week. He is in first grade and the son of Adam and Lisa Leuk. He is a very kind, playful and considerate classmate. He works well with others and does a good job helping his buddies be more respectful. He comes to school every day with a big smile and most often a funny story. He enjoys football, soccer and baseball. When he grows up he wants to be a plumber.

Benett Ulmanic has been chosen Grantsburg Middle School’s student of the week. He is in fourth grade and the son of Sony and Jim Ulmanic. He enjoys playing cards and sports. He is a role model in his family. They enjoy his daughter and personality. He is excelling in math and reading multiplication.

Catherine Williams has been chosen Luck Elementary School’s student of the week. She is in fourth grade and lives with her older brother, her mom, dad and Pepper, the dog. As a family they enjoy playing outside in the summer. She enjoys reading. Her favorite genres are fantasy fiction; she recommends Kaze DiCamillo. When she grows up she wants to become a professional softball player or a vet. She loves animals.

Hunter Memmer has been chosen Luck Middle School’s student of the week. He is in seventh grade and the son of Jon and Rayna Memmer. He is a likable, helpful, kind and respectful young man. He enjoys going to class with energy and does his best each day. He is involved in track, cross country and triathlon. In his spare time, he enjoys video gaming, bowling, gaming and hunting. He also volunteers at the FWR.

Isaac Fultz has been chosen Luck High School’s student of the week. He is a junior and the son of Austin and Becky Fultz. He is a very insightful, enthusiastic young man. He is always willing to help out staff members and other students. He is involved in track, Quiz bowl, Forensics and drama and is employed at Winter’s. In his spare time, he enjoys playing video games and hangin out with friends. He plans to attend NITT.

Landon Herrick has been chosen Siren Elementary School’s student of the week. He is in fifth grade and the son of Autumn and Ryan Herrick. He is an artistic and friendly child. He loves creating artwork with patterns of hearts and other colorful shapes that she does at home with her parents. He enjoys hiking and drawing. He enjoys spending time with her family and friends.

Kaden Clark has been chosen St. Croix Falls Middle School’s student of the week. He is in eight grade and the son of Steve Clark and Vleet. He is a kind and respectful young man. He is always willing to help out his peers and the staff during class and in athletics. He is a natural addition to any class and always brings his best. He is kind to his classmates and has a great sense of humor.

Emma Cooper has been chosen St. Croix Falls High School’s student of the week. She is a sophomore and the daughter of Julie Mitchell and Greg Mitchell. She is hardworking both during class and in athletics. She is an athletic addition to any class and always brings her best. She is kind to her classmates and has a great sense of humor.

Ashley Hyden has been chosen Unity Elementary School’s student of the week. She is in sixth grade and the daughter of Ken and the daughter of Dwayne and Brian Van Wyk. She is a very talented young lady with great ambition. She enjoys being part of band and yearbook. She is involved in many clubs and activities. She is a positive and respectful student. She is a hard worker and always willing to help out when needed.

Sierra Van Wyk has been chosen Unity Middle School’s student of the week. She is in eighth grade and the daughter of Dwayne and Brian Van Wyk. She is a very talented young lady with great ambition. She enjoys being part of band and yearbook. She is involved in many clubs and activities. She is a positive and respectful student. She is a hard worker and always willing to help out when needed.

Grace Studeman has been chosen Webster High School’s student of the week. She is a senior and the daughter of Jennifer and Christopher Studeman. She can handle being under pressure and makes quick and smart decisions. She enjoys cheer and voluntaries to sing the national anthem at events. She is polite, friendly and gives above and beyond. She plans to work at a local family business and attend college at FTC.

Mallory Wilson has been chosen Webster Middle School’s student of the week. She is in seventh grade and the daughter of Brittany Wilson and Scott Wilson. She is a hardworking young lady who consistently strives for top grades. She is always cheerful and respectful. She is a local friend who willingly helps those around her. She is a positive and respectful student. She enjoys playing basketball and soccer.

Chloe Hudson has been chosen Websterville Elementary School’s student of the week. She is in first grade and the daughter of Aaron Benjamin and Toni Zappa. She enjoys books and has a good sense of humor and enjoys laughing at funny stories. She is a hard worker and gets along with her class mates.
“BRIGHT” by Sidney, 17

MARCH

Thursday/7

Amery
- Bingo at the VFW post, 6:30 p.m., mfwv.org/w/post7929.

Grantsburg
- Free blood pressure checks at Courtyard Square, 10 a.m.-noon.

Luck
- Terrance Taylor, “Youth Alive” presentation at the school, 6 p.m., 715-472-2152, ext. 115.

Friends of the Library at the library, 6 p.m., 715-825-2033.
- Domestic violence support group, 5-6 p.m., 800-261-7226.
- Domestic violence support group, 7-7:30 p.m., 800-261-7226.

Webster
- Lions, Lions and Webb Lake Community Club food distribution at Connections store, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., 715-466-8103.

Friday/8

Danbury
- Music at the Forts, Higbee Bluegrass Band, 7-9 p.m., btbf.org, 715-466-8405.

Falun
- Free bread distribution, every Friday until further notice, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 7 a.m.-1 p.m., 715-463-2940.

Frederic
- Head injury support group meets at the library, 2 p.m., 715-327-4474.
- Deadline to sign up for Beginning Watercolor class at the arts center on March 16, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., 715-371-0144, fredderarts.org.

Milltown
- Fish fry at Milkwood Lutheran Church, for Luther Post Bible Camp, 4-7 p.m.

Siren
- Free soup at the VFW hall, sponsored by Trinity Lutheran, and Falun, VFW Post 1256, 11 a.m., 715-327-4474.

Saturday/9

Amery
- Ruby’s Pantry at Congregational Church. Doors open 8 a.m. on the 9th of March; donation, 715-268-7990.

Lewis
- VFW Post 10322 meeting at the hall, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., 715-653-2220.
- Bingo at Sundown Saloon, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., sponsored by EIO SnowRiders.

Shell Lake
- NW Wisconsin Graziers Network Winter Conference at the community center, 6:30 a.m.; P.O. Box 46, 715-327-8564.

Siren
- Gargantua to perform at Danish Parish Hall, 7:30 p.m., westemnit.net, 715-520-0830.

Sunday/10

Milwaukee
- Brunch 11 a.m., followed by bingo, 2-4 p.m., at the community center, sponsored by American Legion and Auxiliary.

St. Croix Falls
- Song Circle at the library, 3:30 p.m., 715-463-1777, stcroixfallslibrary.org.
- Paint & Sign class at Chateau St. Croix, noon-2 p.m. Must preregister, facebook.com/laurieheart, 651-343-9691.

Monday/11

Balsam Lake
- “The Friendly Foxer,” Tanna Worrell, to speak on using wild plants at Master Gardener meetings at the government center, 7 p.m., 715-268-3052.

Tuesday/12

Cumberland
- Pati Kachel dramatic storytelling, “Miss Beatrix Potter,” at the library, 6:30 p.m., 715-825-2033.

Fredric
- Open house at the 6-12 school to provide information on referendum, 6:30 p.m.

Send event information (include contact information) to submit@leaderregister.com

MON.-WED./18-20

Grantsburg
- Kids Outdoor Skills Camp at CRES, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Registration required, crexmeadows.org, 715-463-2739.

Wednesday/20

Balsam Lake
- Early Learning Days in St. Croix County in the Old Courthouse, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Call 877-485-2372 by Mar. 14.

Tuesday/19

Amery
- Diabetes support group meeting at the medical center, 4-5 p.m., 715-268-6850.

Clam Falls
- Coffee hour at Clam Falls Lutheran Church, 9 a.m.

Dresser
- Caregivers support group meeting at Peace Lutheran Church, 2 p.m., 715-957-3755.

Luck
- Free medical clinic at Home & Away Ministries, 4-7 p.m., 715-472-7770 for appointment, myhealthinternet.com.
- Ruby’s Pantry at Home & Away Ministries, Open 11:30 a.m., distribution noon-1 p.m. donation, 715-747-7007.

Osceola
- Military family support group meeting at the community center, 9:30 a.m., 715-657-0587.

Polk County
- Como Park Spring Flower Show trip for seniors on ADCR van, 11 a.m., 2 p.m., Call 877-485-2372 by Mar. 16.

Webster
- Mental health support group led by HABF facilitators at the library, 10-11 a.m., 715-463-8787.

Thurs.-Sun./17-21

Amery
- Bingo at the VFW post, 6:30 p.m., mfwv.org/wp-post7929.
- Memory Cafe gatherings at the community center, 1-2 p.m., 715-268-7911.

Balsam Lake
- Polk-Burnett Beekeepers Assoc. meeting at the justice center, 7 p.m., 715-327-8564.

Burnett County
- Como Park Spring Flower Show trip for seniors on ADCR van, 11 a.m., 2 p.m., Call 877-485-2372 by Mar. 16.

Grantsburg
- Grief support group at New Hope Lutheran Church, 4-5 p.m., 715-463-2739.
- 6-week grief support group at Burnett Medical Center, 10-11:30 a.m., 715-327-8564.

Wednesday/20

Balsam Lake
- Friends of the Library meeting at the library, 5:30 p.m., 715-466-3215.

Danbury
- Blood drive at the Swiss Town Hall, 11 a.m., 800-793-2777, redcrossblood.org.

Thursday/21

Amery
- Bingo at the VFW post, 6:30 p.m., mfwv.org/wp-post7929.
- Memory Cafe gatherings at the community center, 1-2 p.m., 715-268-7911.

Siren
- Domestic violence family group, 5-6 p.m., 800-261-7226.
- Domestic violence support group, 6-7 p.m., 800-261-7226.

Siren
- Burnett County Democrats meeting at Traders Roundabout, 7 p.m.

St. Croix Falls
- Free AARP tax assistance at the library, 9 a.m.-noon.
- Polk-Burnett Beekeepers Assoc meeting at the justice center, 7 p.m., 715-327-8564.

Friday/22

Danbury
- Winter wigwam dedication ceremony at Forts Folle Avoine, 3-6 p.m., Hultemeier, 715-466-8800.
- Free bread distribution, every Friday until further notice, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 9 a.m.

Siren
- Prekindergarten & kindergarten registration at the Siren schools, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Call for availability, 715-268-2729.

Saturday/23

Siren
- Moms for Kids Carnival at the school, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.