

Brodhead FREE PRESS

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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Brodhead, WI 53520

POSTAL PATRON

City Council Council Approves 2026 Capital Improvement Projects

By Grace Kufahl

MSA attended the meeting to provide an update on ongoing projects that involve them.

City Hall has numerous structural and water infiltration issues, including a lack of insulation, cracking, rusty lintels, and water damage. MSA recommends adding insulation, addressing water infiltration, anchoring a sliding stone block, tuck pointing a neighboring building's wall and adding a roof access hatch.

According to a DNR inspection conducted in 2023, the Decatur dam requires monitoring and repair of multiple issues, the most pressing of which is to address a sinkhole at the headwall. The city must respond to the DNR by late February.

MSA reported the existing Wastewater treatment plant, built in 2000, has mechanical issues with valves, pumps, and impellers, impacting its efficiency and requiring immedi-

ate attention. Greg Richter, operator in charge, recommends proceeding with the WWTF plan, addressing the identified mechanical issues, and ensuring the plant's efficient operation. MacKenzie will perform a rate analysis after recommendations are issued.

The council allocated \$350,000 for City Hall repairs with \$100,000 previously budgeted and \$250,000 reallocated from other projects. Other Capital Improvement Projects approved for 2026 were \$50,000 for park play structures, \$70,000 for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan, \$200,000 for solar panels for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and \$100,000 for street maintenance.

Chief Raupp needs to extend a new conditional offer of employment to the previously approved police officer candidate. Due to medical issues preventing her from taking the Physical Readiness Test,

BHS WALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

Brodhead High School is pleased to accept nominations for alumni who have brought honor to our community as one of Brodhead's "Shining Stars". Nominations will be considered for any person who graduated from Brodhead High School. Nominations will be accepted until Friday, January 30, 2026. They are looking for people who have gone on to achieve outstanding academic accomplishments, have served our community or country in truly outstanding ways, have received national or state recognition for excellence in some area, or have gone on to demonstrate excellence within their vocation.

Candidates selected for the "Wall of Fame" will be awarded a plaque at a ceremony on Monday, March 2 at 6 p.m. A second plaque with their photo and a profile of their accomplishments will be placed forever on Brodhead High School's Wall of Fame for the students and public to view.

Please send nominations to Wall of Fame Committee, Attn: Mr. James Matthys, Brodhead High School, 2501 W. 5th Ave, Brodhead, WI, 53520.

Name of person nominated

Year of graduation from Brodhead High School

Please list accomplishments of person being nominated or reason for nomination

Name of person submitting this nomination

Phone and address

CLASS: LORI HOLT APPLIQUE

Join friends and neighbors while learning the charming and versatile Lori Holt applique technique in this fun, hands-on class!

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND
10:00AM**

Participants will need:
Bee Happy Book
Bee Happy Sew Simple Shapes (D-12 and D-8)
Fabric: 5"x5" background square, 2"x3" print for cupcake top, 4"x4" print for cupcake base
Sew-in interfacing: 2"x3" rectangle and 4"x4" square
Sewing machine and thread
Small fabric scissors
Point-turning tool
Fabric glue
Heat-resistant sewing pins
Optional: Medium red button (7/16"), hand-sewing needle, embroidery needle, brown and green embroidery floss.

Cost is \$25.00 and a Brunch dish to pass. Special 15% discount on all purchases made during the day of the class.

Block for class: Cupcake Block (pg 27)
Explore the variety of fabrics when you pick up your supplies for the project from Keeping Up With The Jones's Quilting.

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Seats are Limited. Please Reserve your spot today!
Contact Lori Jones with any questions
608-897-9401 or Lori@keepingupquilting.com

she will now need to enter the academy in August. In the meantime, she will be brought in for code violations and cross-trained in dispatch.

In Other Business:

There are four mayoral candidates therefore there will need to be a primary in February.

Council approved a draft agreement for the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program with Brodhead Water and Light.

Next month's Council meeting will be Monday, February 23, at 6 p.m.



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office hours?**

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your convenience!!**

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ACTIVITIES AROUND TOWN

LUNCH AND LEARN: MEASURE TO MANAGE

Join Three Waters Reserve for their Lunch and Learn: Measure to Manage, which will explore ecosystem resilience at Sylvan Road with presenter Tom Hunt, UW—Platteville Professor Emeritus, on Thursday, February 19th, from 12–1 p.m. at Three Waters Reserve!

Enjoy a delicious American-style buffet catered by Culinary Nirvana while learning about the 99-acre Sylvan Road Conservation Area, home to reference-quality wetlands, oak woodlands, trout streams, and more than 365 native plant species. Tom will share insights on how soils, hydrology, vegetation, and disturbance influence ecosystem health and long-term resilience. Perfect for nature lovers, conservation supporters, and foodies alike!

Buy tickets online: www.threewatersreserve.com/pages/calendar-1
Three Waters Reserve: N3941 Golf Course Road, Brodhead
Price: \$21.95
Featured Buffet: American Cuisine
Register by: Sunday, February 15.

ACADEMICS

NIU FALL 2025 GRADUATION LIST

More than 1,200 students received their bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Northern Illinois University in December. Included among the graduates are the following students from your area:

Caroline Martin, Master of Science in Education, Instructional Technology; Kevyn-Ann Sutter, Master of Public Admin, Public Administration-Local Government Management; and Jessica Tomita, Bachelor of Science, Nursing, all of Davis, Illinois.

TRISTAN HENDLER NAMED TO FALL 2025 DEAN'S LIST

Northern Illinois University announces its fall 2025 Dean's List students. To earn this distinction, students must meet a minimum semester grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology or a minimum of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale in the colleges of Business, Education, Health and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and Performing Arts.

Tristan Hendler, of Durand, IL, who is majoring in Mechanical Engineering-B.S was among those named. Hendler is a graduate of Durand High School.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES FALL 2025 DEAN'S LIST

More than 11,800 Iowa State University students have been recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the 2025 fall semester Dean's List. Students named to the Dean's List must earn a grade point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

Among those named was Savannah Nicole Peterson, Animal Science, B.S., of Davis, Illinois.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE FALL SEMESTER 2025 ACADEMIC DEAN'S LIST

The University of Dubuque congratulates the following students on being appointed to the Fall Semester 2025 Academic Dean's List.


Full-time students in good academic standing (registered for and having earned 12 or more letter grade credits for the term) who earn a term grade point average of 3.5 or above and who do not have any grades of Incomplete for the term are named to the Dean's List. Once grades have been submitted for any Incompletes, the Office of Academic Affairs will review eligibility again for possible placement on the Dean's List for the given term.

Dean's List is awarded for the fall and spring semesters only and may be awarded retroactively.

Among those named was Alexander Flores, Durand, Illinois.


A LITTLE GOOD NEWS

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"Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it."
~ Henry David Thoreau



Parkview FFA Alumni Fund-raiser Dinner

On Saturday, February 28 from 5–9 p.m., head to the Orfordville American Legion Post 209 for a hearty Tri-Tip dinner complete with a baked potato, salad, rolls, and beans—all for just \$25. Enjoy an evening packed with fun and chances to win, including a gift card wall, silent auction items, and raffles throughout the night. Every ticket and bid helps make a difference—funds raised support scholarships for Parkview FFA members, assist students at the Rock County Fair, and help cover registration fees for leadership workshops. Come hungry, bring your friends, and help support the next generation of agricultural leaders.

Contact FFA Advisor Tjark Sattler at tsattler@email.parkview.k12.wi.us to order tickets!

Brodhead Jaycees Announce Third Annual Dueling Pianos Fundraiser to Support New Splash Pad

The Brodhead Jaycees, in partnership with The Morse Group, are excited to announce their third annual Dueling Pianos and Silent Auction Fundraiser, an event aimed at bringing a brand-new community splash pad to Brodhead!


The fundraiser will take place on Saturday, March 7, from 7-10 p.m. at Ludlow Mansion in Monroe, and promises an evening of live entertainment, community connection, and charitable giving. Proceeds from the event will directly support the development of a splash pad designed to be fun, inclusive, and accessible for people of all ages and abilities.

Community members and local businesses are encouraged to get involved through event sponsorships, silent auction donations, or ticket purchases. All forms of support help ensure the success of the event and the future splash pad project.

Those interested in sponsoring, purchasing tickets, or donating auction items are asked to contact Katie Porterfield at 608-921-1199 or brodheadjaycees@gmail.com, visit their Facebook page, or you can find the links online at brodheadjaycees.com.

The Brodhead Jaycees invite the community to join them for an evening of music, fun, and generosity while helping build a healthier, happier future for Brodhead!

11 Snows To Go!



Edward “Casey” Jones for Mayor

Experienced, trustworthy advocate for the City of Brodhead

Balanced budget for two years as Mayor without cutting services. Made presentations to several State committees which resulted in long term increases to our shared revenue received from the state of at least \$140,000 annually.

Member of the Optimist Club, Lions Club, American Legion and a member of the Living Word Church Men's group. During my last term as Mayor, I participated in many events and festivals in the City of Brodhead as an advocate for our small city lifestyle.

My wife and I are owners of several businesses and spend most of our time and money in Brodhead. I love my hometown and look forward to resuming my duties as Mayor.

Please vote on Tuesday, February 17, to help Brodhead become an even better place to live than it already is!

Paid for by Edward “Casey” Jones for Mayor



Bethlehem Lutheran Church


SOUP-er Bowl

Thursday, February 5th
5:30pm - 7:30pm
405 E 9th Ave, Brodhead, WI





All You Can Eat Soup, Bread, & Dessert
Kids (4 & under) - Free
Kids (5-10) - \$5 Adults - \$8

SUPER BOWL PIZZA SALE



Grab some take & bake pizzas for your Super Bowl party!
Sausage, Pepperoni or Cheese Pizzas \$16
Deluxe \$17
To Order: Call 608-607-7422
Pick up or delivery:
Friday, February 6th: 3-5 p.m.; Saturday, February 7th: 8 a.m.-12 p.m.





Jill Baxter for Mayor

Moving Brodhead Forward, Together

- Proven leadership through four years of service on City Council
- Diligently worked to implement sound, responsible financial decisions at City Hall
- Professional and respectful in all City business
- Values collaboration when addressing challenges and resolving conflict

Progress happens when we listen, cooperate and respect one another.
I would be honored to earn your vote for Mayor.
Paid for by Jill Baxter for Mayor

Advertising Deadline: Friday, 5 p.m.



The Brodhead wrestlers place winners from River Valley Boys/Girls Invite on Saturday, January 17, were left to right, Thomas Lohmar—second at 120, TJ Hall—third at 144, Ashlyn Cayetano Pueblita—third at 132 and Olivia Brooks—third at 138.

Brodhead-Juda Wrestling

The athletes of the mat for Brodhead-Juda had a tri meet in Juda last week. Other Brodhead-Juda wrestlers notching victories were Logan Berzinski and Todd Hall, Jr. against Blackhawk/Shullsburg. Hall and Thomas Lohmar won their matches against their Big Foot opponents. The girls made their

presence known: Ashlyn Cayetano Pueblita over Brigitte Stauffacher BSW and Grace Pearce BF, Hayden Lewis hung on for a win over Emily Curran BSW. Lily Scheidegger was paired with and pinned Melanie Hoyt of BF.

At the River Valley Invite, with 16 schools competing, Olivia Brooks



Olivia Brooks scored over Emma Hocking BSW and Cassidy Vilona BF at the event. (Free Press photo by Teresa Earleywine)

and Ashlyn Cayetano Pueblita both finished third. Hayden Lewis was on the podium in fourth place, Lily Scheidegger placed fifth, while Jai'lynn Amundson earned points for her sixth-place finish. Of the 13 women teams, the Cardinals finished in eighth place.



Rush West B-J, went the distance, 5:18, in his match against Eli Glee of BSW to achieve a win. (Free Press photo by Teresa Earleywine)

The boys at the invite earning points included Thomas Lohmar—second place, Todd Hall, Jr.—third place and Logan Berzinski had seventh place.

At the Monroe Invite last Saturday, Thomas Lohmar brought home third place while Todd Hall, Jr. finished in fourth place. Rush West and Logan Berzinski earned team points with their eighth place finishes respectively.

The team faced Edgerton on Tuesday, will be at Clinton on Thursday, Friday the Girls and JV will be at Lodi and Saturday the Cardinals head to the Deerfield Invite.

Brodhead

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Boys - Albany at Brodhead (HS)

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Girls - Delavan-Darien at Brodhead (HS)

\$20

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January 21 winner
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Albany

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Boys - Edgerton at Lake Mills (HS)

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Girls - Juda at Shullsburg (HS)

Yes we have our own

Home Builds—to provide a hand-UP!
(2026 is in Monroe – wanna help...?!)

ReStore Sales – to provide funding for above.
Vintage furniture to construction materials
1060 4th Ave West – Monroe (1/2m S of F&F)
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www.greencountyhabitat.org / 608-291-9968

Mens - Ohio State and Wisconsin (College)

CONTEST RULES

1. Pick the winning team listed in each advertisement. Write name of the team opposite the advertiser's name on the entry blank.

2. Write the highest number of points scored by any one team in the space provided on the entry form. This will be used to break a tie. If a tie remains, one winner will be chosen by random drawing from all correct entries.

3. One entry per contestant. Entry forms must be returned to the Brodhead Free Press, 925 W. Exchange Street, Brodhead, WI 53520 by 5 p.m. Friday.

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Arn's Auto Service _____ Brodhead Free Press _____

Bank of New Glarus _____ Habitat for Humanity _____

Body Crafters _____ I think _____ will be the mostpoints scored by one team.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ PHONE _____



**By Cindy Clint,
Outreach Coordinator**

Here's a look at what's taking place this February at the Albertson Memorial Library:

Every Tuesday at 10 a.m., gather with us for Preschool Storytime led by our Children's Programming Specialist, Miss Laura. Each week, we'll explore captivating tales that highlight:

- Princesses and family
- Canines and felines
- Animals and nature
- Things that go

Additionally, on months with a fifth Tuesday, we'll introduce a special bonus theme! Come and enjoy a delightful mix of stories and crafts.

The Albany Joint Library Board meeting is scheduled to take place, at the library, on Tuesday, February 3rd, at 6:30 p.m. This meeting

is open to the public. The agenda will be available on our website and posted at the library the Friday prior to the meeting. Join us to discover the library's future plans!

Fly over to our gathering on Wednesday, February 4th, at 6:30 p.m. and master the art of creating a dazzling "Acrylic Stained Glass Cardinal" at Diane's Craft Night. This craft will NOT be offered as a take-home kit, so be sure to sign up at the library and come join the fun!

Embark on an extraordinary journey in our Dungeons and Dragons campaign, “Shadows of the Infinite Staircase,” taking place on Saturdays, February 14th and 28th at 4 p.m.! Immerse yourself in a thrilling adventure as you assist the Guildmaster in lifting a shadowy curse from the mystical staircase. Jump in anytime—no need for a magical portal! If you missed the character creation party, give us a shout to arrive early and get your hero ready. This campaign is ideal for adventurers aged 15 and older. On the fence? Curious about the

chaos and camaraderie? Check out our Facebook and Instagram pages for thrilling recaps of past sessions!

Dive into the crafty chaos with the Creative Capers for a snack-tastic, chitchat-filled evening on Friday, February 20th at 6 p.m.!

Discuss *The Mothers* by Brit Bennett with All Booked Up on Monday, February 23rd at 6:30 p.m. This is an emotionally perceptive story about community, love, and ambition that begins with a secret.

Come unleash your inner word-smith with the Sugar River Writers on Thursday, February 26th at 6:30 p.m. Whether you're a scribbling newbie or a pen-wielding pro, everyone's welcome!

Please follow us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/AlbertsonMemorialLibrary>, Instagram
<https://www.instagram.com/albertsonmemoriallibrary> or check
out our calendar of events on our
website at <https://www.albertson-library.org> for additional information.

Kids for Wish Kids at Brodhead High School

**By Cristi Gretebeck and
Crystal Holtsapple-Guth,
Student Council
Co-Advisors**

Kids for Wish Kids is a fund-raising program that provides schools and youth organizations the opportunity to engage in philanthropy and service activities in partnership with Make-A-Wish. The Make-A-Wish Foundation's goal is to grant the wish of every child diagnosed with a critical illness.

BHS StuCo raised over \$5,000 in February 2020 for Darcy, a seven year-old girl from Monroe, who has Rett's Syndrome and had a wish to visit DisneyWorld in Orlando, Florida.

In 2022, we sponsored Aidyn, a 14-year-old from Madison, living with a circulatory system disease, whose wish was to travel to Hawaii. In 2023, we raised over \$5,000 for Kaelie, who has a neuroblastoma, and had a wish to travel to Hawaii. In 2024, BHS StuCo raised \$3,200 for Robert, a nine-year-old from Janesville, who's living with cystic fibrosis, who wished to travel to Hawaii. Last year, BHS StuCo raised \$3,600 to support Jack, a 14-year-old boy from Stoughton who's living with a respiratory disorder, and his wish to go to Walt Disney World® Resort and Universal Orlando.

This year, Brodhead High School Student Council is excited to partner with Make-a-Wish Wisconsin for the sixth time to sponsor a local child. Gunnar is a nine-year-old from Janesville who's living with a heart

condition. He enjoys swimming, playing basketball, climbing trees, playing Minecraft and Fortnite, going to his family cabin, playing kickball and eating at Culver's. He wishes to go to Walt Disney World® Resort and Universal Orlando.

Our plans include raising awareness and accepting donations at three high school events during the week of February 2nd, donating the proceeds of our annual pie sales, and holding half-time events at basketball games that week. We will also be holding a penny war at the high school.

We are hoping you will partner with us in helping to send Gunnar to Orlando. If you are as excited as we are to help make Gunnar's wish come true. Donations can be made online with the QR code here or mailed to the address below. Please contact Student Council Advisors Crystal Holtsapple-Guth or Cristi Gretebeck with any questions by phone: 608-897-2155 or email: choltsapple@brodhead.k12.wi.us or cgretebeck@brodhead.k12.wi.us.

Here's how you can help:

Send donations to Brodhead
High School Student Council, 2501
W. 5th Ave, Brodhead, WI 53520

- Donate or buy bake sale items during the basketball games!
- Participate in the 50/50 raffle or half court shot contest during the basketball games!
- Send change with BHS students to participate in a grade level Penny War all week.



Gunnar



Logan Krupke, file photo, drained a couple from long range in the game against Jefferson last Tuesday. At the half, Brodhead was down by one-point. The Eagles would hang on for a 53-41 win. The Cardinals lost against the Cheesemakers on Saturday. (No stats were available at press time.) This week, Brodhead hosted Wisconsin Heights on Monday and travel to Whitewater on Thursday, and host Albany in a non-conference match at 3 p.m. on Saturday. (Free Press photo by Teresa Earleywine)



Karlle Krumwiede fights for ball control on the rebound in the Cards game against Whitewater last Thursday. Brodhead overpowered the Whippets with a 74-34 final score. Non-conference game against Blackhawk last Monday had Brodhead's Allie Dahl lead both teams with her 23 points. The Cardinals easily handled the Warriors with a 53-23 final. Next week the team traveled to Marshall on Tuesday and host Delavan Darien on Friday. Mark your calendars for an exciting showdown when the team will host Albany-Monticello, ranked #2 in D5, Monday, February 2 at 7 p.m. (Free Press photo by Teresa Earleywine)

The advertisement is enclosed in a red border. On the left, the words "Brodhead" and "FREE PRESS" are prominently displayed. "Brodhead" is in a black script font, while "FREE PRESS" is in a large, bold, red serif font. Below this, a red rectangular box contains the text "Your Hometown Newspaper" in a white serif font. At the bottom left of this box, the phone number "608-897-4797" is written in a large white serif font, followed by a vertical line and the address "1035 1st Center Ave. - Suite 107 Brodhead, WI 53520" in a smaller white serif font. To the right of the "FREE PRESS" text, the words "IS NOW" are written in a black sans-serif font, tilted upwards. Further right, the word "Online!" is written in a large, bold, red 3D sans-serif font. A red computer mouse with a white button and a red cord is positioned below "Online!". The cord loops around and points towards the word. Below the mouse, the phrase "CHECK IT OUT!" is written in a black, italicized, sans-serif font. At the bottom right, a black rectangular box contains the website address "www.brodheadfreepress.com" in a white sans-serif font.

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Monday Night Mixed League

1/19—High series: Josh Strehlow 712, Jason Shrier 661, Tim Huffman 656. High games: J. Shrier 248, J. Strehlow 248, Rick Reed 246. Fosters Gaming-high team game 1,045 and series 3,030. **Standings:** Fosters Gaming won 161 lost 109, Beloit Chiropractic 144.5-125.5, Broughton’s Bar 144-126, Center Tavern 141-129, Albany Lanes 112.5-157.5, Bartelt 107-163.

Badger

1/20—High series: Brian Behnke 630, Brian Purdy 621, Keith Riese 617, Ryan Brugger 600. High games: B. Purdy 246, Tony Brewer 244, B. Behnke 237, Josh Brugger 235. Renks-high team game 829 and series 2,356. **Standings:** Renks won 48 lost 22, Counter Attack 48-22, Jim’s Mechanic Shop 44-26, Decatur Dairy 41-29, TUGS 15-55, Team 6 14-56.

Thursday Afternoon Ladies

1/15—High series: Becky Riese 460, Nancy Salzwedel 456, Jessica Fenwick 430. High games: B. Riese 169, J. Fenwick 169, N. Salzwedel 168. Knutes-high team game 513 and series 1,499. **Standings:** Briggs Heating and AC won 12 lost 2, Mike’s Flooring 9-5, Knutes 9-5, Nolte’s Garage 7-7, Albany Lanes 5-9.

Thursday Night Mixed

1/22—High series: Brandon Bayrholder 699, Robert Murray 681, LeRoy Blumer 656, Tony Brewer 646. High games: L. Blumer 267, B. Bayrholder 251, Tim Golz 247, T. Brewer 245. Albany Lanes-high team game 1,042 and series 2,922. 1/15—High series: Rob Kubesh 698, Jim Krattiger 668, Ryan Flood 663, Robert Murray 662. High games: Austin Heath 278, James Laughlin 276, Erich Brandenburg 268, Josh Stadt 268. Albany Lanes-high team game 1,090 and series 3,104. **Standings:** Glenn Ann Holsteins won 38 lost 25, Albany Lanes 36-27, Golz Electric 35-28, Attica Bar 32-31, Broughton’s Corner Bar 1 30-33, Broughton’s Corner Bar 2 18-45.

Brodhead Juniors

1/17—High series—boys: Alexander Ramirez-Vogel 438, Casey Johnson 423, Jayse Bennett 312, Henry Johnson 312, Carter Fenwick 278, Liam Elmer 196. High games—boys: A. Ramirez-Vogel 172, C. Johnson 156, J. Bennett 118, C. Fenwick 112, H. Johnson 109, L. Elmer 73. **High series—girls:** Kelsee Brugger 365, Lilly Johnson 290, Emma Welbig 246. High games—girls: K. Brugger 133, L. Johnson 106, E. Welbig 92.

Brodhead Youth

1/17—High series: Braxton Normington 132, Thorin Perrin 125, Ayla Brugger 177, Amelia Fenwick 122, Abigail Fenwick 99, Keira Shrader 95. High games: B. Normington 72, T. Perrin 66, A. Brugger 91, Abigail Fenwick 75, Amelia Fenwick 64, K. Shrader 53.

Albany Lanes - Scott & Teresa Wahler
212 E. Main Street, Albany • 608-862-3131

Saturday Mornings at the Durand Library

Antiques: Q&A, Tuesday, February 10

Everyone is invited to bring in an old article, which you would like to learn more about. Perhaps you have a family keepsake or something you picked up at a garage sale or at a thrift shop. No matter it's history, we'd love to see it and Jay Friberg, a retired antique dealer with more than 20 years of experience, will tell you about the piece. He'll be sharing his expertise with us Tuesday, February 10 at 7 p.m.

This is a great chance to learn exactly what the item is and how it was used. Don't worry whether your piece is an "antique" or a "collectible"—all these old pieces remind us of how our ancestors lived before the great changes in lifestyle brought about by the availability of electricity, running water and central heating.

The term "antique" is directly from the French language and means simply "old." Decades ago the federal government declared that an item which is more than 100 years old would be considered an antique and therefore someone could bring it into the country without paying customs duty on it.

Collectibles are items, which are, as the name implies, things people might want to collect because they are appealing in some way. With the rapid change in how we live today, articles from decades ago seem more quaint and collectible. Some older folks might remember them as simple everyday items.

The monetary value of each item can vary with time. For those who watch older Antiques Road Show programs, the monetary value, i.e. the amount someone might be willing to pay for an item, can drop over time. Although Jay is not an appraiser, he will offer a rough assessment of a piece's worth.

Please join us whether you bring an item or not more. Seating will be limited and an email to the Durand Library, villagelibrary@cusd322.org to let us know you are coming will be appreciated.

This program is hosted by the Friends of the Durand Library a nonprofit 501c3 group, which collaborates with the school to make library services available to the community. The library has access to the Interlibrary Loan system, which enables a search of 138 libraries in Northern Illinois to find requested books for patrons. And please know that we are happy to deliver books to anyone who is unable to get to the library.

Residents of the school district can check out books for three weeks from the school library as well as the Durand Library and renewals can be made by phone or email. Regardless of residence, everyone is invited to all library programs and events.

Also, there is a drop off box at the library entrance. Library services are free, easy to use and the Friends encourage the community to support this local library effort.



By Laura Roth, Children’s Librarian

The Animals and Nature theme at Albertson Memorial Library's Preschool Story Time focused on buffaloes last week. Stories included There's a Bison Bouncing on the Bed (by Bright) about a bed that breaks due to all the animals jumping up and down on it. Toys Meet Snow (by Jenkins) the buffalo gets to play in the snow, making snow angels, etc. The last book, Buffalo Fluffalo (by Kalb) tells the story of a grumpy buffalo who learns that just being himself is enough. The Preschoolers tried to put a buffalo puzzle together and then colored and glued and painted a buffalo of their own.

Next week, the Story Time will continue the Families theme with books about grandpas: How to Babysit a Grandpa (by Reagan) and Grandpa's are for Finding Worms (by Ziefert). The preschoolers will talk about What Grandpas Do Best (by Numeroff) and make a hand-print craft with a heart around grandpa. (It IS February/Valentine's, right?)

Albertson Memorial Library's Preschool Story Time meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. There's plenty of room for more visitors. We'd love to make some new friends. See you Tuesday!



Please email villagelibrary@cusd322.org or call 815-289-8602 with any questions. Library hours are Saturdays 9 a.m.-noon and Tuesday evenings 6-8 p.m. Entry to the library is at the east end of the school, follow the signs along the wide paved walkway.



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