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We invite you to join us and celebrate the Christmas Season at Albany United Methodist Church!

Sunday, December 7th – 6:00p – 7:00p

Enjoy the sounds of the season with a special musical performance from **Marcus Adams** and scripture readings!

Bake Sale by Senior High Sunday School



Albany United Methodist Church, 500 Park Street, Albany WI

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Juda Craft Fair

The Juda Booster Club will be hosting the Juda Craft Fair on Saturday, December 13, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Juda School, N2385 Spring Street. There will be jewelry, ceramics, handmade signs, home-made soaps, quilts, cross stitch, easy to prepare food, spices, drink mixes, wickless candles, plastic canvas, gourmet food products and much more.

Concessions will be available all day, with breakfast and lunch options as well, sponsored by the junior class.

Santa will be visiting from 10 a.m. to noon.

Admission is free.

Football contest

The highest scoring football game of the week was Washington over UCLA, 48-14. Dennis Schwartz, Brodhead, won first place with one incorrect game and 48 points. Second place was a three way tie with one incorrect game and 49 points: Ann Schwartz of Brodhead, and Lynette VonAllmen and Tom Brewer, both of Albany.

Eric VonAllmen, Albany, also had one incorrect game and 52 points.

Thank you to our sponsors and participates for another successful year.

Brodhead Optimists Once Again Offer Essay and Oratorical Contests Great Prize Money

Students under the age of 19, are invited to speak their minds through a written essay entitled “How My Acts of Service Help Me Understand What My Community Means to Me” to win cash prizes at the local and district levels of Optimist International for the school year 2026! Just pick up an application from Brodhead middle and high schools, the library, or Wendy Backes (wendybackes1966@gmail.com) and you're on your way! Applications and essays are due back by Monday, January 26th, 2026 to the place where you picked up your application.

Students, the Oratorical Contest has even bigger prize money available. You must be under the age of 19 as of October 1, 2026, and create a speech that lasts between four and five minutes on the topic of “The Moment I Realized I Belonged—My Definition of Community”. Pick up your application at the middle school, high school or library as soon as possible and return by Monday, January 5th to secure your space!

The Optimist Club will judge the students' speeches based on content and presentation to determine the top winners. Winners will receive cash awards and the winning speeches will be sent to the Zone Level, and possibly the District Level for the opportunity to win college scholarships. Winners of the District Level will be eligible to compete in a regional contest in St. Louis, Missouri, at St. Louis University. Winners of the regional contests will compete in the World Championship also held at Saint Louis University. Students could possibly win up to \$22,500 in scholarships!

“As they prepare for their future, many of our local students need experience expressing their thoughts and opinions to an audience,” Club President Gloria Sutter said. “The Oratorical Contest challenges them to do just that and also offers an opportunity for scholarships. In this way, our club hopes to bring out the best in each of them and help them achieve their goals for the future.”

If you have any questions, please contact Christine Dieckhoff at christidee@litewire.net or 608-558-5828 and she will help you.

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Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, City of Brodhead residents normally collected on Friday will be collected instead on Saturday, November 29th.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



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TIME TO GET
BASTED



THANKSGIVING
EVE PARTY

Wednesday,
November 26

Drink Specials

Karaoke — 8 p.m. to Midnight

JUDA FIRE DEPARTMENT'S

32nd Annual GUN SHOW

Sunday, December 7th
8 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Held at the
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Sell ★ Trade ★ Buy ★ Browse



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Bridges Breakfast with Santa!

Sunday, December 7
8 - 11 a.m.

Featuring Breakfast Buffet only

Free Hot Chocolate and Cookies for the kids.

Bring your camera to take a picture with Santa!
Santa will be at Bridges from 8:30 to 11 a.m.

Advertising Deadline: Friday, 5 p.m.

A LITTLE GOOD NEWS

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“Life is like riding a bike. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.”
~ Albert Einstein





Allie Dahl led the Cardinal girls’ basketball team, with 18 points, four from beyond the arc, in a non-conference match against Cambridge last Tuesday. They won against the New Glarus Knights on Friday. This week, they play at Edgerton on Tuesday for their conference opener. (Free Press photo by Teresa Earleywine)

Family Promise of Green County expands program

**By Rick Gleason,
Executive Director,
Family Promise of Green
County**

Family Promise of Green County provides emergency housing services and other critical needs for Green County families and individuals facing homelessness or who have become homeless. This organization began in the early spring of 2011 when a book study group at Monroe United Methodist Church explored poverty in our Green County community and discovered a need for further action. This group, led by Robert (Bob) and Cheryl Beck, Arthur and Barbara Bartsch, and others, with boots on the ground, took this mission seriously and began to explore ways to address a growing need. Bob Beck reached out to the Family Promise National Office, and by the late spring of 2011, Family Promise of Green County was officially a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization created to serve our local families in need.

This group of people moved from the study room in the church to the streets of our communities and brought churches and community organizations together to turn an idea into reality. This group grew to more than 30 local churches, organizations, and civic groups that were on a mission. Grace Lutheran Church in Monroe graciously provided their vacant parsonage to be the first home for Family Promise of Green County.

Fast forward to 2019, by this time, Family Promise had outgrown its location in the parsonage and began to explore options for expansion. Greg and Penny Fedders had offered a property to Family Promise, and by October of 2019, they had closed on their first property. This was an upper and lower duplex, which allowed the organization to operate with offices and emergency shelter services in the lower level while creating a transitional housing program in the upper apartment and continuing their partnership with approximately 30 local churches, which provided for their rotational shelter program.

In 2020, with the COVID pandemic, the program changed, and the emergency shelter was brought into the main building and eventually became a static site shelter housed in the lower level of the duplex. As homelessness continued to grow in Green County, so did the need for more space to allow the organization to serve more families at one time. The organization began to explore the addition of a small four-plex housing unit onto their current building and moved forward with renderings and discussions with the city of Monroe Zoning. With a plan

to move forward and begin construction in 2025, something unexpected happened. Something that no one saw coming.

In January of 2025, a local business owner by the name of Jody Neuenschwander-Hauser reached out to Family Promise of Green County with a gift that would serve Green County in a way no one could have even imagined. Jody and her mother (Donna Severson) had owned and operated Graceland Manor Assisted Living on West 17th Street in Monroe for more than 30 years. A dream that Jody and her mother had built and grown out of their love for serving people in Green County. Jody had lost her mother and continued to operate this facility on her own, and in 2025, she had decided that she was ready to retire. She reached out to Family Promise to ask if we would be interested in purchasing the property to expand our program. Family Promise Director, Rick Gleason, had worked with Jody in the past, and she knew this would be a program that would use the property to continue to serve the people of Green County. Jody told Rick that she had multiple corporate groups trying to buy her CBRF property from her, even before she had decided to retire, but Jody said, “Mom and I built this place to serve the people of Green County, and I do not want to sell to any outside corporate people. I want this property to continue to serve Green County families, and I know Family Promise will make that happen.” Family Promise purchased the Graceland Manor property on October 1, 2025, and Jody officially retired.

The generosity of Jody cannot go unnoticed in this community. Jody could have received a much greater offer for her property by selling out to corporate realtors, but her heart has always been focused on serving the people of Green County, and that makes her a community hero in my book. What Jody gave Green County was a huge gift. First, it allowed Family Promise of Green County the opportunity to increase staffing and triple the number of families we could serve at one time. Our previous property, located along Highway 69 South, would become our new Affordable Housing program, but it doesn’t end there. The Graceland Manor property consists of two CBRF buildings, each 4,700 sq. ft. Family Promise is utilizing one building for their own program, and the second building is being leased to the Green County Homeless Shelter and Warming/Cooling Center. Officially “FIELDS of Green County” (Fostering Independence, Empowerment, Lasting Dignity, and Stability). The Green County Shelter program has been a topic of discussion for many years; however, finding the right building has been a challenge until now. This winter, Green County residents will have a safe, warm place available to them with services and resources to help them work toward independent housing and stability. Dan Williams, Director of Green County Human Services, has been working long hours to create this program, and it is scheduled to open in early December 2025. For more informa-

tion, you can visit their Facebook page, “Green County Homeless Shelter,” or visit their Green County Human Services website, go to Economic Support, and then click on the Shelter link. There is a need for volunteers who would be interested in assisting with staffing, meals, and items needed to supply the shelter, as well as financial donations to support the program. All the details can be found on their website.

To Jody Neuenschwander-Hauser, Green County is beyond grateful to you for your commitment to the community and your generosity. May your retirement be as wonderful as you are, and for the entire Green County Community, I say thank you for such an amazing gift!

Saturday Mornings at the Durand Library Toys and Books Galore for Young Visitors Submitted by Barbara Flores, President, Friends of the Durand Library

Are you expecting young guests at your home this Thanksgiving weekend? Please know that the library offers books as well as toys and games to check out and share with them. Nephews and nieces, grandchildren and great grandchildren will love snuggling with a family member and hearing a story read to them.

Through a collaboration with the school, the Friends of the Durand Library maintains public hours so that residents of the school district can check out children’s as well as adult books.

The elementary section of the library is just huge ranging from board books to all reading levels for children. There are terrific nonfiction books, which are full of information on so many topics which are fascinating to children: animals, nature, farms, trains and much more. Many adults will find themselves pleased to learn themselves as they share these books with their young guests. And, of course, there are delightful fiction and fun books for every age group, from old favorites to the newest children’s literature.

In addition to books, there are several STEM quality games available for checkout from simple building and stacking toys to ones such as the spirograph, which requires a battery and challenges the adult as well as the child.

The volunteers at the Durand Library urge you to take advantage of the array of material for children. Sharing a book with a child by reading to them (or letting them read to you!) increases children’s skills and interest in learning. And, of course, when your little guests go home, you can simply return the material.

During the Thanksgiving weekend the library will have regular public hours Saturday morning, November 29 from 9 a.m. to noon. Entry to the library is at the east, or playground, end of the building. Just follow the signs along the wide paved walkway. Hours are 9 a.m.—noon Saturdays and 6-8 p.m. Tuesday evenings.

Email villagelibrary@cusd322.org, call 815-289-8602 and visit us on FB/[durandvillagelibrary](https://www.facebook.com/durandvillagelibrary).

Give a child a smile this Christmas...

attend the 27th Annual
Children's Christmas Benefit
Saturday, December 6, 2025
at Orfordville American Legion Post 209

*A holiday tradition sponsored by Rock County Supervisor Brian Knudson!
Enjoy a free meal and entertainment! No admission or cover charge.*

Just bring donations to help those in need:

New
Toys &
Games

CASH

Food
Pantry
Items

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**Welcome the holidays with a
Fun Night for your entire Family!**

6:00p.m. – FREE Community Dinner (donations accepted)
7:00p.m. – Children's visits with Santa
7:45p.m. – FREE Children's raffle drawings
8:00p.m. – LIVE MUSIC – Stateline Playboys
Hourly Prize Raffles - \$1/ticket - Over 150 Prizes (must be present)
11:45p.m. – Grand Prize Raffle (\$5/ticket)
with over \$1500 in prizes!
(Winners need not be present for Grand Prize Raffles)

For more information, call 608-289-2498, email childrenschristmasbenefit@yahoo.com
or follow us on Facebook!

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Connect Green County announces Third Annual Ugly Sweater Holiday Party

Connect Green County will host its 3rd Annual Ugly Sweater Holiday Party on Thursday, December 18, at the Monroe Golf Club, 2205 21st Street in Monroe, Wisconsin. The event runs from 4 to 8 p.m. and is free for all attendees. Guests will also receive a complimentary raffle entry and one drink ticket.

Connect Green County is a networking group created to bring together local professionals, community members, and newcomers who want to build relationships and get more connected in Green County. The group hosts casual events throughout the year to help people meet one another, share ideas, and engage in the community.

“The Ugly Sweater Party has become one of our favorite traditions,” said Michelle Prien, Connect Green County Board President. “It’s a simple, fun way for folks to unwind, make new connections, and enjoy the holiday season together.”

Attendees are encouraged to wear their most festive or outrageous holiday sweaters and join in for an evening of relaxed conversation, light activities, and seasonal cheer.

For more information, contact Olivia Otte at 608-328-9452 or gcde@greencountydevelopment.com, or check out the Connect Green County Facebook page for updates.

St. Peter thanks community for coming to our annual dinner

By Pastor Tyler Swiderski

Another year, another Thanksgiving Dinner in the books! St. Peter Lutheran Church was honored to present its 44th annual dinner on Monday, November 10th. As always, it was a wonderful group effort, and we are incredibly grateful for everyone involved in making it happen. Thank you to those of you who prepared and served the food, and thank you to everyone who attended and made this dinner such a joy to host! In all, we were able to raise \$500 for Brodhead’s own EMS and another \$500 for Christian Aid and Relief, our synod’s organization for providing disaster relief and humanitarian aid all around the world. Special thanks also go out to Thrivent Financial, Texas Roadhouse, Ten Eyck Apple Orchard, and Justin and his associates at Piggly Wiggly for their generous contributions to our meal. Of course, we invite you to come back Wednesday, November 26th, too, when we will be gathering for our annual Thanksgiving Eve worship service at 7 p.m.! And with all that being said, what a joy it is to be a part of such a wonderful community! From all of us at St. Peter, have a blessed Thanksgiving!

Pictured to the right: Pastor Swiderski, Joyce Nipple, and Ken Hoesly



Brodhead Backpacker Program received almost entire trailer of food

Submitted by Kirsten Novy, District Communication Specialist, Brodhead School District

The Battle of Businesses took place on Saturday, November 15, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Brodhead Piggly Wiggly. The following businesses or organizations participated to help collect food donations to be distributed between White Gift Food Pantry, Brodhead Family Promise Community Food Pantry, and the Brodhead Backpacker Program.

Rolli Worx, Newcomer Funeral Home, Brodhead Family Promise Community Food Pantry, Backpacker Program, Jeremy Pinnow and Associates, EXIT Professional Real Estate, Schlittler Construction, First

Center Floral and Garden, Sugar River Bank-Brodhead, Optimist Club, KC Lawn Care, Bank of Brodhead, Stateline Mental Health, Living Word Church, Campbell’s Piggly Wiggly, Bullwinkle’s Coffee and More, Cove’s Electric, Floors for Less, Bridges Bar and Grill, Green County, Pec Valley-Monticello, Western Rock County ATV Clubs, The Nurturing Tree Early Learning Academy, Brodhead Jaycees, Kobussen Busses, Huntington and Sons Plumbing, Brodhead Dance Academy, Rustic Road Training, Goecks Concrete, and White Gift.

In total, 82 shopping carts were filled with food to donate to our community. Jeremy Pinnow and Associates won first place with nine full shopping carts, EXIT Pro-



Elite Eighth Graders

Chosen by the Brodhead Middle School eighth-grade team of teachers in appreciation for hard work, kindness, willingness, and responsibility shown throughout the first quarter in the classroom and out.

Front row, left to right: Anna W., Molly A., Brielle P., Moria L., William W., Oliver M., and Hannah W.; back row: Chesney M., Addi F., Sydney D., Lukah M., Malachi M., Gunnar O., Mikah B., and Rosalie K. Absent: Emmett B.



fessional Real Estate took second place with eight full shopping carts, and Schlittler Construction and First Center Floral and Garden tied for third place with seven full shopping carts of food donations.

Our Backpacker Program received almost an entire trailer full of food that we will use to send home in our weekly weekend bags as well as the larger bags that we send home for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter breaks. The food donated also allows for the Backpacker

program to save on the cost of that food, which allows for us to put that money towards the weekly Piggly Wiggly vouchers we send home with the bags, which include fresh items such as milk, eggs, bread, veggies, fruit, and ground beef. The outpouring of donations of food, money, time and participation in this event has been amazing and has made our hearts full with pride and gratefulness to be a part of such a wonderful giving community.

Monday Night Mixed League

11/17—High series: Ryan Flood 699, Ty Powell 656, Robert Murray 644. High games: R. Flood 269, Zack Hefty 249, R. Murray 247. Broughton’s Bar-high team game 1,049 and series 3,085. **Standings:** Broughton’s Bar won 18 lost 9, Beloit Chiropractic 17-10, Center Tavern 16-11, Fosters Gaming 11-16, Albany Lanes 10-17, Bartelt 9-18.

Tuesday Shanigans

11/18—High series: Karrie Laws 376, Becky Hanneman 348, Shi Strommen 337, Dennis Atkinson 554, Dan Eaton 534, Doug Hawkins 488. High games: K. Laws 139, B. Hanneman 129, Linda Neuenschwander 128, D. Atkinson 200, Rick Clark 193, D. Eaton 188. Sweet Mini HaHa-high team game 778 and series 2,265. **Standings:** Sweet Mini HaHa won 34 lost 15, The Young & The Restless 32-17, Misfits 32-17, Perfectly Aged 31-18, Greightful Dead 11-38.

Badger

11/18—High series: Ryan Brugger 698, Ethan Pfueti 666, Rob Kubesh 654, Don Nieman 629. High games: R. Brugger 268, E. Pfueti 241, John Elmer 241, R. Kubesh 237. Jim’s Mechanic Shop-high team game 857 and series 2,408. **Standings:** Renks won 7 lost 0, Jim’s Mechanic Shop 7-0, Counter Attack 7-0, Decatur Dairy 0-7, Team 6 0-7, TUGS 0-7.

Wednesday Night Ladies

11/19—High series: Sarah Flood 474, Jessica Holtsapple 438, Marcie Brugger 421, Amy Golz 421, Brenda Jacobson 417. High games: S. Flood 192, Barb Larson 159, Jen Cole 158, J. Holtsapple 155, M. Brugger 154, A. Golz 154. Albertson’s-high team game 572 and series 1,593. **Standings:** General Store won 54 lost 23, Larson Acres 54-23, Glenn-Ann Ladies 41-36, Albertson’s 31-46, Stables Bar & Grill 30-47, Crystal’s Team 21-56.

Thursday Afternoon Ladies

11/20—High series: Barb Chapman 410, Laurie Thommen 401, Becky Riese 393. High games: B. Riese 164, B. Chapman 162, Priscilla Kaderly 145. Mikes’ Flooring-high team game 538. Knutes-high team series 1,435. **Standings:** Knutes won 60 lost 24, Briggs Heating and AC 58-26, Nolte’s Garage 52-32, Mike’s Flooring 48-36, Albany Lanes 32-52.

Thursday Night Mixed

11/20—High series: Robert Murray 723, Ryan Flood 703, Brandon Bayrhofer 676, Scott Wahler 654. High games: R. Murray 280, TJ Golz 279, R. Flood 255, Josh Fenwick 245. Albany Lanes-high team game 1,068 and series 3,059. **Standings:** Golz Electric won 12 lost 2, Glenn Ann Holsteins 9-5, Albany Lanes 7-7, Broughton’s Corner Bar 1 7-7, Broughton’s Corner Bar 2 4-10, Attica Bar 3-11.

Brodhead Juniors

11/22—High series—boys: Casey Johnson 435, Alexander Ramirez-Vogel 427, Evan Johnson 400, Carter Fenwick 370, Tristan Modaff 359, Jayse Bennett 308. High games—boys: E. Johnson 181, A. Ramirez-Vogel 180, C. Johnson 159, J. Bennett 147, T. Modaff 142, C. Fenwick 140. **High series—girls:** Aubrie Bartelt 372, Kelsee Brugger 364, Emma Welbig 348, Lilly Johnson 252. High games—girls: K. Brugger 148, E. Welbig 132, A. Bartelt 128, L. Johnson 119.

Brodhead Youth

11/22—High series: Jaxson Brewer 138, Braxton Normington 104, Thorin Perrin 67, Ayla Brugger 173, Amelia Fenwick 112, Abigail Fenwick 95, Kinslee Brewer 69, Keira Shrader 39. High games: J. Brewer 79, B. Normington 54, T. Perrin 39, A. Brugger 87, Abigail Fenwick 72, Amelia Fenwick 63, K. Brewer 39, K. Shrader 22.

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South Central Wisconsin Farmers Union Board Members, left to right: Alicia Gasaway, Sheila Everhart, Olivia Roth, Jonas Moench, John Peck, Mark Doudlah, Kathy Pennington, Penny Molina. Not pictured: Sue Nelson.

South Central Chapter of Wisconsin Farmers Union Elects New Leadership Team

The South Central Wisconsin Farmers Union serving Green, Lafayette and Rock Counties is a member-driven organization committed to enhancing the quality of life for farmers and rural communities. SCWFU is a vibrant, engaged local group that welcomes people who enjoy and support local food, farming and maintaining our rural countryside.

The South Central Chapter of Wisconsin Farmers Union held its annual board meeting to elect its leadership team and envision the year ahead. The chapter's leadership team is a strong mix of newer members and experienced Farmers Union individuals. The board for the upcoming year is as follows:

Penny Molina (Brooklyn, Green County)—President	Jonas Moench (Orfordville, Rock County)—Ag Business Committee member
Sheila Everhart (Janesville, Rock County)—Vice President, Policy Committee Chair	Sue Nelson (Browntown, Green County)—Events and Policy Committee member
Olivia Roth (Albany, Green County)—Secretary, Communications Committee Chair	The chapter's 2025-26 focus includes providing networking and mentorship opportunities, including assisting local farmers, ag businesses and rural communities with resources, advocacy, policy, civic orientation and education. The chapter hosts three to four chapter events per year which are open to all. To sign up for the chapter's monthly newsletter or more information visit https://scwfu.com/ or email wfusouthcentral@gmail.com .
Kathy Pennington (Brooklyn, Green County)—Treasurer and Parliamentarian	
John Peck (Brooklyn Green County)—Membership Committee Chair	
Alicia Gasaway (York, Green County)—Events Committee Chair	
Mark Doudlah (Evansville, Rock County)—Ag Business Committee Chair	



By Laura Roth,
Children's Librarian

Another fun day at Albertson Memorial Library's Preschool Story Time! The first story, Can You Growl Like a Bear (Butler) had the preschoolers acting like animals! Wow, can they growl! Then a book about animal acting like humans: Dogs Don't Wear Sneakers (Numeroff)! What a fun, silly story! Imagine a moose going bowling and chickens diving into a swimming pool! Can a cow dance? Finally, The Cuddle Book (Genechten) highlighted different animals showing affection. (Porcupines cuddle carefully!) The kiddos finished with a cuddle craft, tracing their arms to create a hug.

Next week will be the last Princess themed story time. (Switching to family: parents, grandparents, etc.) After hearing the story Never Let A Princess Paint With Her Unicorn (Alber), the preschoolers will make their own unicorn-tail paint brush and paint a unicorn with it. There might be a princess song or two and finally, a search for Cinderella's glass slipper.

Story Time meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. at Albertson Memorial Library in Albany. There's a great group of participants presently, but plenty of room for more. We'd love to welcome new friends.

See you next week?





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Special Mailbox Has Arrived at Brodhead Post Office

It's that time of year, so full of cheer, When children think of gifts so near. A special mailbox has arrived in town, at the Brodhead Post Office, just look around!

Write your letter, neat and bright, Address it to Santa, and seal it tight.

Drop it in the box with care, And Santa will get it, he's always there!
The North Pole staff is ready to read, And Santa himself will take the lead,
Answering each letter with care, A Christmas reply beyond compare.
But hurry, don't wait too long, The box is here until Sunda, December 14th!

Santa's busy, as you can see, But he'll find time to reply—guaranteed!

Brodhead Fire and Ice Festival: A Holiday Tradition Returns!

Get ready to kick off the holiday season at the annual Brodhead Fire and Ice Festival, presented by Bridges Bar and Grill, on Friday, December 5th, from 4 to 9 p.m. in downtown Brodhead. This beloved community tradition promises an evening full of festive fun, sparkling lights, and holiday cheer for the entire family.

Visitors can enjoy beautifully crafted ice sculptures and the fiery excitement of mesmerizing fire twirlers lighting up the crisp winter night. Families are invited to stop by Brodhead Family Chiropractic with Santa, where Exit Professional Realty will be handing out a sweet treat for everyone who visits.

Thanks to sponsors Body Crafters and Kuhn, horse-drawn carriage rides will take guests on a festive journey through downtown, offering the perfect way to experience the twinkling lights and seasonal atmosphere.

The highlight of the evening is the Brodhead Water and Light Holiday Parade kicking off at 7 p.m. featuring dazzling floats, festive music, and plenty of holiday spirit. After the parade, warm up by the fire pits, roast marshmallows or hot dogs, and enjoy the friendly fun of the Frozen T-Shirt Contest, where participants can compete for some "cool" prizes.

On Saturday morning, the holiday celebration continues with Breakfast with Santa, hosted by the Brodhead Jaycees, from 9 to 11 a.m. at Three Waters Reserve. Families can enjoy a delicious breakfast and take a photo with Santa to capture a special holiday memory. For more information and to register for contests, the memory tree, or the lighted parade, visit Brodhead-FireAndIce.com. Join the fun as downtown Brodhead transforms into a holiday wonderland during this year's Fire and Ice Festival!

27th Annual Children's Christmas Benefit

The 27th Annual Children's Christmas Benefit will be held at the Orfordville American Legion on Saturday, December 6. Many exciting holiday events will highlight this year's benefit.

At 6 p.m. the evening will kick off with a delicious pork chop community supper.

Santa Claus will be on hand for the children at 7 p.m.

Raffles will be held throughout the evening. Donations will be accepted for the meal. The State Line Play Boys will provide entertainment from 8 p.m. to midnight. Bring your entire family for an evening of holiday fellowship and fun!

The toys and gifts collected are distributed discreetly and confidentially among local county children so their Christmas will be a bit merrier. The purpose of the benefit is to give to the kids what they would not otherwise have during the holiday season. It is an organization that is 100% volunteer driven.

There is no charge for the evening's entertainment or the meal. Donations will be accepted at the event. All cash contributions will be used specifically for purchasing hats, mittens, boots, clothing, toys, and supplies for children from birth to high school age. The contributions also supply a Christmas meal to each of the families. Community members are encouraged to join in the fun and holiday spirit so that many deserving children will have a merrier Christmas this year. If you are interested in donating raffle items, would like to refer a family in need, or for questions regarding the event, please contact Brian Knudson at 608-289-2498.



By Cindy Clint,
Outreach Coordinator

Here's what's happening during the month of December at the Albertson Memorial Library:

Write a letter to Santa Claus. Utilize a letter template from the Albertson Memorial Library or create your own at home. Once your letter is ready, simply drop it off at the library, and we will ensure it gets mailed to the North Pole for you.

December 2nd, 9th, and 16th 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
- Canines and felines
- Animals and nature

Due to the holiday, Preschool Storytime will not take place on December 23rd or 30th. We will resume our Storytime sessions on January 6, 2026.

The Albany Joint Library Board Meeting is scheduled to take place, at the library, on Tuesday, December 2nd 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!

At 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 6th, get ready for the grand entrance as Santa rolls up to the library in a firetruck! Come meet the man



in red, whip up some elf-themed crafts, and munch on tasty treats. Remember, Santa's sleigh departs for the North Pole at 11 a.m. sharp, so don't be late!

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 10th at 6:30 p.m. and get ready to learn how to craft 'Glitter Foam Christmas Ornaments.' You'll have the opportunity to create four unique foam ornaments this holiday season, adding a delightful sparkle to your tree! Can't make it? No worries! You can collect a kit from the library anytime during December and enjoy crafting this project whenever it suits you!

Embark on an unforgettable journey in our Dungeons and Dragons campaign, "Shadows of the Infinite Staircase," taking place on Saturday, December 13th 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 for thrilling recaps of past sessions! We're hitting the pause button on the Saturday, December 27th game to soak up some holiday cheer. Fret not, we'll be back and ready to roll the dice again on Saturday, January 10th.

Heads up! Creative Capers, All Booked Up, and the Sugar River Writers are hitting the holiday snooze button and won't be hosting events in December. But fear not, the fun picks back up in January!

The library will be closed in observation of Christmas on December 24th and 25th, reopening on December 26th. Additionally, we will close for New Year's on December 31st and January 1st, resuming normal hours on January 2nd.

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.albertsonlibrary.org> for additional information.



Branson, Missouri, this time of the year will put you in the Christmas spirit. The Bank of Brodhead bus trip left on Monday, November 10th and returned on Saturday, November 15th. While in Branson they saw seven enjoyable shows, several of them with a Christmas theme. The town was all decorated with Christmas lights. One evening they toured the Lights of Joy. It is a one-mile drive thru featuring over 250 dazzling displays.



The Members of the Juda Zion Community Church Youth Group and The Juda High School National Honor Society would like to thank the Juda Community for their generous donations of food for the food drive held recently in Juda. A total of 559 pounds of food was collected and given to the Little Blue Food Pantry at the church in Juda and the Green County Food Pantry. Thanks again for your generous contributions!!



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