

Brodhead FREE PRESS

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

POSTAL PATRON
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Brodhead, WI 53520

POSTAL PATRON

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City Council

Local 911 Options Discussed, Sewer Rate Increase Approved

By Grace Kufahl

Paul Boening from Ehler's and Nathan Watson from Next Generation Development addressed the board about 12 four-plexes Next Generation would like to build on the parcel located between 15th Street and 17th Street and between East 6th Avenue and East 7th Avenue. If TID 10 were developed as requested, the value would be added to the tax rolls in 2028. This would bring in about \$4 million over the life of the TID and wouldn't require any major road construction from the city. During its 20-year life, the revenue would only be able to be used in the TID. About \$10 million in value would be added to the tax rolls when the TID closes. Alders Burkhalter and Gritzmaker expressed concern that Next Generation hasn't done anything with the Whispering Pines TID 8 near Subway. Watson replied he'd talk to his company about it and that the numbers for the four-plex development won't work without a TID. The council didn't take action on the request.

Boening addressed the board about a Wastewater Treatment rate study done by Ehler's in which they recommended a 5.5% sewer rate increase in 2026. The last rate increase was in 2013. The 5.5% increase was approved effective May 5th.

During Public Comments, Amber Foster of Foster's Gaming stated she'd like to see inspections completed and ordinances followed before the Good Ole Stuff license

is reinstated. Police Chief Raupp reported that the proprietor, Mr. Spitzmiller, had addressed repeated code violations. Fire Chief Scheidegger raised concerns about fire risks and recommended against renewing the license. The council voted to issue the seller's permit for a 90-day probationary period, conditioned upon completing the application in full, inspections by the building inspector and fire chief and payment of costs incurred.

Peter Bernstein and Heather VanderMeulen raised concerns about dissolving the local 911 dispatch. Alder Gritzmaker later clarified when he put that on the agenda, he was looking for an update on a prior discussion. Chief Raupp explained there are several directions that could be taken to continue 911 service, but each has a cost and pros and cons. Raupp stated nothing can be done until Green County updates their phone system estimated to be up to six months from the proposed May or June start date.

The city was approved to negotiate with developers regarding 22 proposed duplexes on city land near Brodhead Tire. Alder Burkhalter raised concerns the housing wouldn't be affordable as indicated which has been an issue in the past.

In Other Business:

Paul Boening estimated an \$18 per \$200,000 tax increase in 2027 based on the revised capital improvement project schedule.

(Continued to page 3)

School Board

Public Speaks out on Proposed Budget Cuts

By Grace Kufahl

Five district parents and/or staff members made emotional pleas to look elsewhere for budget cuts besides moving a teacher from fourth grade to 4K. Speakers raised concerns about the lack of individual attention to students, setbacks to learning outcomes, and staff burn-out. President Mike Krupke thanked them for their input. Superintendent Novy later discussed several options with the board, including moving a teacher to 4K, saving about \$80,000. He suggested the district could save \$4,000 a year by posting agendas and minutes online instead of in the newspaper. Jennifer Flory asked for public input, and two people stated family members faithfully read the minutes in the paper. Other possibilities mentioned were cutting each school's budget by five percent, saving about \$14,000 a year by charging purchases through Skyward, eliminating show choir, which currently has one student, reduced salaries for new teachers replacing those retiring, using the referendum contingency fund for the maintenance budget for one year, raising sign fees, using a lower-cost waste management vendor, and recouping additional co-op costs from Juda. The deficit is projected to be \$499,000, and the district is aiming for \$200,000 in budget cuts. Novy pointed out many unknowns, such as state funding and the number of 4K students next year. The board was asked to prepare to give their thoughts on budget cuts at the Wednesday, March 11th meeting.

In his referendum update, Novy reported the district is looking for end-of-year projects to be funded from the \$350,000 bond investment funds and \$125,000 contingency fund. He explained funds were approved for spending on facilities,

(Continued to page 3)



Exciting News for Our Downtown Businesses!

Fosters Gaming and Collectibles is proud to receive \$5,000 through the Brodhead Business Improvement District (BID) Facade Program! This program matches up to \$5,000 for eligible facade improvements or signage, helping businesses within the district enhance their storefronts and continue investing in our community.

Are you a business located within the BID and considering upgrades or improvements? We encourage you to reach out to the BID for more information and see how this program can support your plans.

Pictured left to right: Megan Schurell, Director of the BID; Amber Foster, Director of the BID and owner of Fosters Gaming; Tyson Foster, owner of Fosters Gaming; Jeremy Pinnow, BID President; and Jared Arn, Treasurer of the BID. Thank you to the BID for supporting local businesses and helping keep our district vibrant and growing!



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Vote for
Mary Bartels
Brodhead City Council
Tuesday, April 7, 2026

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Paid for by Mary Bartels for Brodhead City Council

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Vote for
Jill Baxter
Brodhead Mayor

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Paid for by Jill Baxter for Mayor

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Albany United Methodist Church, 500 Park Street, Albany. 608-862-3206, Elizabeth Staniforth-Seamster, Pastor. Sunday worship 9 a.m. Adult Sunday school 10 a.m.; Sunday school age three through 12th grade at 10 a.m. Open Communion each 1st Sunday. Check our web page at albanyumchurch.com.

Bethany Lutheran Church, 1652 West Church Road, Brodhead. 608-897-4158. Pastor position currently open. Interested candidates may reach out via Facebook or call Bethany Lutheran Church directly. Sunday school 8:45 a.m.; Sunday worship service 10 a.m. Holy Communion first Sunday of each month.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 405 E. 9th Ave, Brodhead. Phone: 608-897-2341 Email: office@bethlehembrodhead.org. Website: www.bethlehembrodhead.org. Sunday in-person worship with Communion at 9 a.m. Online worship option via Facebook—Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Bingo the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 6:30 p.m., doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Congregational United Church of Christ, E201 23rd Street, Brodhead. 608-897-2917. Pastor Shawn Stapleton. Sundays: 10 a.m. worship September through May. Sunday school every other Sunday September thru May at 8:45 a.m. Nursery is available for those who desire. Communion first Sunday of each month. Quilting and crafts workshop every Wednesday at 9 a.m. AA meetings Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m. Palm Sunday, March 29 at 10 a.m. Annual Easter Egg Hunt immediately following service. Outdoors weather permitting.

Grace Independent Baptist Church, Hwy. 81, three-quarter of a mile east of junction with 11, Brodhead. Donald Adams, Pastor. 608-897-8484. 9:30 a.m. Sunday school, 10:30 a.m. morning worship, 6 p.m. evening service. Wednesday 6 p.m. service.

Juda-Zion Community Church, N2350 Church Street, 608-934-5398. Mark Woodward, Pastor. Sunday school 9:15 a.m.; worship service 10:30 a.m.

Living Word Church, 3825 S. County Road T, Brodhead. 608-897-8246. Pas-

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Funeral and
Cremation Services

tor Russ Doebler. Web site: livingwordwi.org. E-mail: ptl@livingwordwi.org. Adult Sunday school 9 a.m.; Sunday service at 10 a.m. worship at church and also via live stream at livingwordwi.org/media; Wednesday evening Impact Youth 6 p.m.

Magnolia Christian Church, located on County A just off Hwy. 213. Services are Saturday night at 6:30 p.m. and can be viewed on their Facebook page. Call 608-449-6510 for more information.

Oakley-Union United Methodist Church, W2388 Gerber Road, Juda, 608-293-4232. Pastor Jady Meyer. Worship 9 a.m. Children's Sunday school September-May 9 a.m.

St. Peter Lutheran Church (WELS), corner of West 5th Avenue and 17th Street. www.stpeterlutheranbrodhead.org. Pastor Tyler Swiderski. Cell 612-270-2591, church 608-618-6090. Schedule—Sundays: worship 9 a.m.; Bible class and Sunday school 10:15 a.m.

St. Patrick Catholic Church, 410 E. State Street, Albany, part of Christ the King Pastorate. Fr. Chahm Gahng, Pastor. Mass on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 8 a.m. www.ctk-p.org. 608-325-9506 or secretary@ctk-p.org.

St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, 1005 W. 2nd Avenue, Brodhead, part of Christ the King Pastorate. Fr. Chahm Gahng, Pastor. Mass on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays at 11 a.m. www.ctk-p.org. 608-325-9506 or secretary@ctk-p.org.

St. Victor Catholic Church, 1760 14th Street, Monroe, part of Christ the King Pastorate. Fr. Chahm Gahng, Pastor. Mass on Monday 6:15 p.m., Tuesday through Friday 8:15 a.m., Saturday 4 p.m., Sunday 8 and 10 a.m. www.ctk-p.org. 608-325-9506. Fully accessible for people with disabilities.

United Methodist Church of Brodhead, 501 1st Center Avenue, Brodhead. 608-897-2515. Pastor Francois Mukosa. Church office hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-noon. In-person worship at 9:30 a.m. Sundays. Fully accessible for people with disabilities. Nursery available. Services live streamed on Facebook.

OBITUARY



Sue Ellen (Moe) Messner

Sue Ellen (Moe) Messner, of Albany, Wisconsin, passed away peacefully at Monroe Health Services on February 24, 2026, surrounded by family and until the very end she maintained her kindness, compassion, love of family and sense of humor telling jokes to everyone. Her infectious laughter and loving spirit brightened the lives of all who knew her.

Sue Ellen was born on November 30, 1952, in Monroe, Wisconsin to Wesley and Velma (Loring) Moe and grew up in Juda. After graduating in 1969 she married Terry Dodd and welcomed their daughter Jessie in 1973.

In August 1982, she married John Messner, and together they combined not only their love, but their families too: Jessie, Chandra, and Chad. After settling into their home in Albany, they added a swimming pool, and weekends were spent in the sun having fun with friends and family. Sue Ellen cherished her relationship with her kids and delighted in her time with them. She never missed an opportunity to pour her-

self into her family and did so with laughter, love, and enjoyment.

Going to her home meant dice games, cookouts, campfires, lots of laughter and delicious food. Sue's gift was hospitality. Because of her generous heart, she welcomed everyone and made them feel at home. Her servant's heart would not allow anyone to leave her home hungry and it's doubtful anyone did! We loved her cooking!

Sue worked hard all her life and spent time employed at Kelly Springfield in Freeport, Ogden manufacturing in Albany and even ventured out with their own fire protection business, but these were a means to her, allowing her what she truly enjoyed: time, adventures and fun with her family making everlasting memories and leaving a legacy of love behind.

Sue Ellen is survived by her husband of 44 years John Messner; her children: Jessie, Chandra, and Chad; grandchildren: Jade, Elliot, Tyler (Brittany), Kaycee (Luke), Alyssa (Chris); great-grandchildren: Carson (her dedicated doctor visit doorman), Hazel, Logan, Noah; and siblings: Steve, Lori, Terri, and Greg. Also dear to her heart was her adored fur baby Marley.

For the last two years, her daughters, Jessie and Chandra committed themselves to Sue's care and went above and beyond for their mom. It truly was an act of sacrificial love on their part, and we are grateful for their commitment to their mom.

Many thanks to compassionate staff of St. Croix Hospice and Monroe Health Services who helped Sue Ellen remain comfortable.

A celebration of Sue Ellen's life was held on March 2, at Saint Victor's Catholic Church in Monroe. Visitation was held from 10-11 a.m. followed by Mass at 11 a.m.

Grace-Bifulk Funeral Home is caring for the family. Condolences can be made to agracefuneralservice.com.



Brodhead
Memorial Public
Library

By Sarah Carpenter

With several exciting events just around the corner, the Brodhead Memorial Public Library would like to share a quick reminder so you don't miss out!

Gardeners and plant enthusiasts are invited to our upcoming Seed Swap on Saturday, March 7 from 9-11 a.m. Bring seeds to share, swap with fellow growers, pick up a few supplies and goodies, and enjoy connecting with other local gardeners. It's a great way to kick off the spring planting season.

Don't forget that our monthly puzzle meet-up has moved! Instead of gathering on the second Friday of the month, puzzle fans will now meet on the third Saturday of each month from 9-11 a.m. We hope this new time makes it easier for even more community members to join in.

The Friends of the Brodhead Memorial Public Library are also sponsoring a special visit from Mark Moran, Antique Appraiser, on Saturday, March 28 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. If you've ever wondered about the value of a family heirloom or unique find, now's your chance! The appraisal fee is \$15 per item, payable by cash or check to the library. Call the library to reserve your spot, and visit the event page on our website or the Friends' Facebook page for details about acceptable items.

We also want to hear from you! A new survey is available on our Facebook page asking for community input on what you'd like to see added to our Library of Things collection. From practical tools to hobby kits and specialty equipment, your feedback helps guide future additions. Take a few minutes to share your ideas—we're excited to grow this collection in ways that best serve our community.

We look forward to seeing you at the library soon!

Green County Genealogical Society to meet

The Green County Genealogical Society will present - "Stoughton's William Seamonson and his Civil War Adventurers" by John Arneson. The presentation is Saturday, March 7 at 10 a.m. in the Monroe Public Library community room on the second floor. The program is open to the public!

Wisconsin Sons of Norway-Mandt Lodge member John Arneson will share the story of his adventure following the Civil War battle engagements of John's great grandfather, William Seamonson. Born in Norway and immigrating as a young child, William went on to serve three years in the Wisconsin 23rd Division in the Red River, Vicksburg, and Mobile Campaigns during the Civil War. Follow the journey that John's investigation has taken as he shares how he researched his great-grandfather's story of service to his country and what resources anyone has access to in order to research their own family members. Travels took them to Norway, Camp Randall, four southern states where most of his battle engagements occurred, to the state capitol, and ending at his final resting spot at West Koshkonong Church.

For any questions about the meeting or presentation, call Donna at 608-921-1537. The GCGS Research Center (located in the lower level of the Monroe Public Library is open to the public for research Tuesdays 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Other times available by appointment. The phone number is 608-328-7436 and the website is www.greencogenealogywi.org.

Albany High Alumni Basketball Tournament

The Albany Alumni Basketball Tournament will be held at the Albany High School gym on Saturday, April 11th. Games will start at approximately 9 a.m. that day and will continue till around 6 p.m. with the final championship game. Food will be available to purchase.

This is their only fund-raiser of the year and all proceeds go to scholarships for deserving seniors. Please come out and support this worthwhile cause. They hope to see you there!

8 Snows To Go!

You must be born again. . . even so must the Son of Man be lifted up. . . He must increase.

~John 3:7, 14, 30 NKJV

With John 3:16 on the horizon, the Son of Man establishes the sinner's great necessity—you must be born again. This human impossibility can only be made possible through the Saviour's great work—the Son of Man must be lifted up. John, having witnessed to the Saviour and having experienced that indwelling life through Him (1 John 1:2-3), draws our thoughts to the saint's great necessity—He must increase, I must decrease. A Christ pre-eminent will is the key to this challenge and will lead us to worship (John 4:24), work (John 9:14) and walk (John 12:26). —David J. Reed

Must I go, and empty-handed, and thus my dear Redeemer meet?

Not one day of service give Him, lay no trophy at His Feet? —Charles Luther

Sponsored by:

Brodhead Gospel Hall

2409 E. 3rd Avenue, Brodhead, WI 53250

Oakley Union UMC Soup Day

The Oakley Union UMC Soup Day will be held on Saturday, March 7, at the Juda Community Center. They will be serving from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will offer dine in or carry out.

Choice of soup: chili with beans, chili mac and loaded potato, brick cheese sandwich and choice of dessert.

VOLLEYBALL

Sunday Night Winter Volleyball

3/1 standings: I'd Smack That won 45 lost 3, The Goon Squad 41-10, Victorious Secret 33-18, Getting Diggy With It 31-20, Super Soy 30-21, That's What She Set 28-20, Killer Serves 25-26, All Sets Are Off 25-26, One Hit Wonders 24-27, Net Ninjas 21-30, Fambam Slamers 19-32, Cactus Squad 14-37, Hit Happens 13-38, It's A Set Up 5-46.

A LITTLE GOOD NEWS

SPONSORED BY:



"Success is getting what you want; happiness is wanting what you get."

~ W. P. Kinsella



ACTIVITIES AROUND TOWN

SUMMER YOUTH BALL SIGN-UP

The Youth Ball sign-up for kids currently in 5k and up will take place Monday, February 16th-Friday, March 13th. Please stop down to City Hall between 8 a.m.—4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday, to sign your child up. After 4:30, registration packet(s) and payment can be placed in the drop box outside of City Hall. Anyone signing up after Friday, March 13th, if spots are still available, will pay a \$20 late fee. Registration forms are also available on the City of Brodhead website at www.cityofbrodheadwi.us

There are several leagues to accommodate the different age groups:

Girls: 8U 5K-1-2 grades (\$35), 10U 3-4 grade (\$50), 12U 5-6 grade (\$50) and 14U 7-8 grade (\$50)

Boys: 8U 5K-1-2 grades (\$35), 10U 3-4 grade (\$50), 12U 5-6 grade (\$50) and Pony's 7th grade (\$80)

Forms need to be completed and turned in with a fee by Friday, March 13th, in order for your child to participate in the program. Leagues will begin in late May or early June. Any questions, call the Pool & Rec Department at 608-897-2159.

Fund-raising Agreement. As an adult registering a child to participate in the BYBP for the coming year, the player fee charged does not cover the full cost of your child's participation in the BYBP. The BYBP requires each child who participates in the BYBP to participate in an annual fund-raiser.

Immigration in America: Past and Present

"Immigration in America: Past and Present," an in-depth overview of immigration in America will be held on Thursday, March 26, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Union Presbyterian Church, 2707 5th Street, Monroe. This educational and community-centered event will explore the historical roots, current legal landscape and lived experiences of immigrants in the United States.

Speakers will include Dr. Mike Jacobs, University of Wisconsin history professor, who will provide a historical perspective on the evolution of U.S. immigration laws and practices; Kime Abdul, immigration attorney and former Monroe resident, who will discuss current immigration laws and policies; and local immigrants, who will share their personal stories and experiences.

The event offers an opportunity for learning, reflection and dialogue around one of the most important and complex issues facing the nation today. This presentation is sponsored by Dando Una Mano: Together We Rise, a 501(c)(3) Green County organization, whose purpose is to create and promote an inclusive environment for all residents of Green County.

Saturday Morning at the Durand Library

Watch for Upcoming Program

Saturday, March 14!

Submitted by **Barbara Flores, President, Friends of the Durand Library**

Please be sure to save time for an upcoming program on watches Saturday, March 14. This will be a look at all kinds of devices, which keep time led by a lover of timepieces.

Jack Liston will share his knowledge and love of these amazing devices. He explains "My background is in automotive and aerospace industries which lead me into fine timepieces. I enjoy how they have precision movements with some watches having well over 200 moving parts I have always been intrigued how things are made and how they work."

Please bring your timepieces in for Jack to look at. We all have those old watches hanging around in that small dresser drawer. Jack can give you an idea of the maker, date of manufacture and other interesting facts.

So, keep an eye on the time and plan to be at the Durand library at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 14 with your favorite old, or not so old, pieces for Jack to look at and evaluate.

The Durand Library is a collaboration between the school and the Friends of the Durand Library. Library hours are Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon and Tuesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m.

Entry to the library is at the east end of the school. Look for a sign at the sidewalk and follow the wide paved walkway back.

For more information please email villagelibrary@cusd322.org or call 815-289-8602.

City Council

(Continued from page 1)

A motion carried to have Attorney Schroeder contact the MSA liability carrier and request damages for errors and omissions related to the Clean Water Fund Loan.

The council approved Administrator DiRe's proposed Request for Qualifications for a City Engineering firm.

The council approved moving up the purchase of a new squad car to replace squad car 55 which doesn't run right after attempts to fix it.

Attorney Schroeder was directed by the council to inform McDonald's to cease and desist dumping oil or grease into the city sewer system, pay charges to restore the system to proper condition and file quarterly reports on cleaning their grease traps.

School Board

(Continued from page 1)

and they must be used for that and during a limited time period. He noted replacing the 2002 elementary school HVAC system would cost over \$200,000, and replacing the aging track would be \$575,000.

In Other Business:

The board approved next year's Music Department trip to Nashville, which is paid for by students or fund-raisers.

All were invited to tour the new 4K area, which appeared well-constructed and pleasant, with cubbies outside the classrooms for coats and appropriate spaces for hands-on play and reading.

BHS to present The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet

A tale of two houses, both alike in... rhyme? This spring, Brodhead High School invites audiences to experience the world's most famous tragedy like never before. Peter Bloedel's *The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet* takes the stage on Friday, March 6 and Saturday, March 7, reimagining Shakespeare's classic through the whimsical, colorful lens of Dr. Seuss. All are invited to this family-friendly show!

This comedic reinvention replaces the brooding streets of Verona with a world of bright colors, wacky contraptions, and rhyming couplets. While the plot remains (mostly) faithful to the original, most scenes and characters get a decidedly Seuss-ian makeover.

Performance Details:

Date: Friday, March 6 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 7 at 2 p.m.

Location: Brodhead High School
Tickets: \$7 per adult and \$5 per student. Bake sale at intermission!
90 minute run time

Helping make Brodhead a place to call home.

Advertising Deadline: Friday, 5 p.m.

BINGO!!

BIG CASH PAYOUTS!!

(Running Progressive Pot)

Thursday, March 12

Continuing 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month!



Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Bingo starting at 6:30 p.m.

Food stand open at 5:30 p.m.



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

405 E 9th Ave, Brodhead, WI

608-897-2341



Albrecht Elementary accepting 4K and 5K applications

Albrecht Elementary School is now accepting new four and five-year-old kindergarten applications for the 2026-2027 school year. If you have a child who will be turning four (4) by September 1st of this year, he/she will be eligible to attend school in the fall. New this year—ALL DAY 4K PROGRAM!!

You and your child are invited to participate in a special night set aside for incoming 4K children and their families. This year 4K Enrollment and Information Night will be held on Thursday, March 26th between 4 and 7 p.m. We are asking that you and your child sign up to attend one 1-hour session that evening.

The 4K Team will keep your child company while engaging them in a play based environment in the 4K classrooms. The parent information portion will be for parents to hear about our program and answer any questions you may have.

If you are interested in enrolling your child, or wish to learn more about our program, please call Albrecht Elementary School at 608-897-2146 or you can email Ashley Smith at ashleysmith@brodhead.k12.wi.us They are looking forward to hearing from you!

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!

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Brodhead seniors who have committed to participate in athletics at their chosen school of higher education after graduation include, left to right: Simon Moore, parents Ryan Tiffany Moore, University of Dubuque—track; Gretchen Kammerer, parents Brian and Erin Kammerer, Madison College—volleyball, Alecia Dahl, parents Brian and Sue Dahl, Ashland University—basketball, and Brynn Riesterer, parents Jason and Beth Riesterer, Madison College—volleyball. (Free Press photo by Teresa Earleywine)



Cardinal senior players for boys' basketball were recognized at their last home game last week. They are Sam Searls, Lucas Keating and Nolan Bump. (Free Press photo by Teresa Earleywine)



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Brodhead FREE PRESS BASKETBALL CONTEST



ARN'S Auto Service
 Monday - Friday 7:30AM - 5:00PM
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 Arn's Radiator Repair \ 608 - 897 - 8088
 Mens - Wisconsin at Purdue (College)

The Bank of New Glarus
 2006 1st Center Avenue • Brodhead, WI (608) 897-8607
 thebankofnewglarus.bank Member FDIC
 Mens - UCLA at USC (College)

BODY CRAFTERS
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608-897-8447
 Mens - Northwestern at Minnesota (College)

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 Mens - Indiana at Ohio State (College)



\$20 Winner
1ST PRIZE Doug Rezner of Brodhead

Habitat for Humanity of Green County
 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
 1061 4th Ave West – Monroe (1/2m S of F&F)
 —Stop by & be surprised! (& Bring this ad for a 10% disc!)
 www.greencountyhabitat.org / 608-291-9968
 Mens - Wahsington at Oregon (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 _____

Music in Our Schools

By Jenny Flory, Brodhead Music Boosters President

March is Music in Our Schools Month! This is the time when we recognize the significance of music education and its impact on our students. There's no better way to do this than by attending a performance. Check out the list below and mark your calendar. Performances are free and your presence is appreciated!

Sunday, March 8—3 p.m., Development of Bands Concert, high school gym;

Monday, March 9—7 p.m. high school and middle school choice concert, high school auditoria;

Tuesday, March 10—9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., third grade "It's A Jungle Out There"; a.m. event follows third graders and 7:15 p.m., fourth grade "Silly Sailors";

Monday, May 4—7 p.m. middle school Fine Arts Night;

Monday, May 11—7 p.m. high school spring concert and awards night;

Friday, May 22—7 p.m. high school graduation;

Monday, May 25—9 a.m. Memorial Day Parade.

On Thursday, March 26, Vince's Restaurant and Pizzeria is hosting Pasta With A Purpose, 5 to 8 p.m. A portion of the proceeds, dine in and pick up, will be generously donated to the Brodhead Music Boosters.

Brodhead Music Department hosts Solo and Ensemble and Honor's Recital

On Saturday, February 21st the halls of Brodhead High School were filled with music as seventh-12th grade band and choir students participated in our local Solo and Ensemble festival. The students spent months preparing vocal and instrumental solos and small ensembles that were performed before an adjudicator. It was great to hear so many positive comments and great feedback from the judges.

A special thank you to all of the people that helped make the day successful- especially Meghan Sievers, Hayley Jordan and Jenny Flory. And a big thank you to our accompanists—Laurie Martenson, Paul Roemer and Kathy Earleywine. The festival proved to be a rewarding day for all involved.

The Brodhead Music Department also held an Honor's Recital that featured some of the performances from throughout the Solo and Ensemble festival. Congratulations to the following students for being selected to perform in the Honor's Recital: Lillian Sievers, Moira Logan, Kayla Perry, Lucas Woodward, Elena Boston, Hayden Lewis Usher, Carmen Strohecker Hughes, Andrew Sweeney, Rasalie Kramer, Mayson VanMatre, Mad-die Hawkins, Heyden Elmer, Peyton Jordan, Drake Geiwitz, Katie Crum, Kaitlyn Mills, Cristi Baldazzi, Makayla Babel, Natalia Baldazzi, Ella Olson, Aubrie Yoshida, Kelsey Bedward, Tyler Picard, Luke Waelti, Molly Arn, Victoria Schneider, Emmett Bliss, Malcolm Moore, Roman Whitehead, Brielle Engen, Liam Franks, William Wallace, Simon Moore, Isabelle Yoshida, Maddy Stephenson, Wyatt Valentin, Ryker Bennett, Blake Fernandez, Hayden Cole, Naia Lazzari, Kylee Cole, Madison Melvin, Matthew Nordeng and Jennifer Drygierczyk.

The recital was such a wonderful way to display the musical talent within the Brodhead School district. It was a great way to end the day. Thanks to everyone that attended the festival and recital. We appreciate your support of music in our schools.

Pictures taken by: Diana Dougherty, Joe Baldazzi, Jenny Flory & Beth Riesterer All student names are labeled in the pictures from L to R. The pictures on stage were taken during the honor's recital. The others were taken during the day.



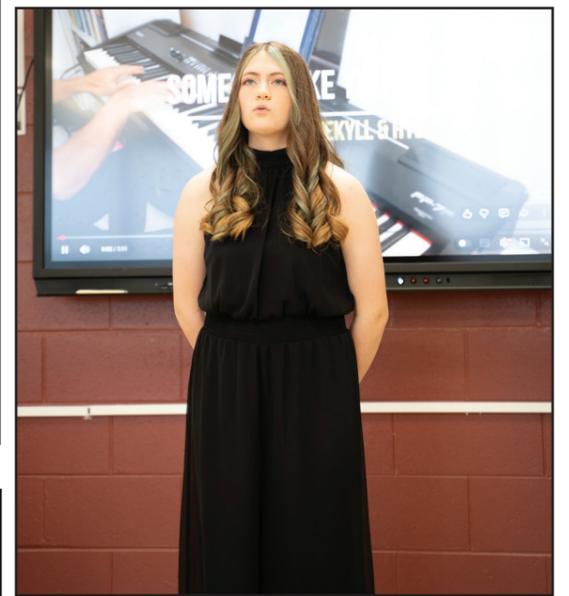
Honor's Recital Participants



Andrew Sweeney and Drake Geiwitz



Carmen Strohecker Hughes & Katie Crum



Jenna Dougherty



Leilah King was recognized for her four years as manager for Brodhead Juda wrestling. (Free Press photo by Teresa Earleywine)

Brodhead's veteran players, Chesney Walker, Karli Krumwiede, Danica Demrow, Taiya Hawkins, Annelise Bethke, Alecia Dahl, and Gretchen Kammerer, cheer on



their teammates as the game clock tics down and closes out their season. (Free Press photo by Teresa Earleywine)



Two Parkview/Albany wrestlers competed at Kohn Center

Parkview/Albany had two wrestlers competing at the state wrestling tournament at the Kohl Center in Madison this year.

In division three #10 seeded Tavin Bomkamp at 150lbs and #13th seeded Elijah Gunn at 165lbs. Bomkamp won his opening match against the #7th seed Nolan Anzia (Cedar Groove-Belgium) but tech fall 17-2. Then beat the #2 seed Lakota Brewer (Riverdale) 13-4 in the quarter finals match on Thursday night. Friday evening in the semi-finals Bomkamp lost to #3 seed Kingston Galetka (Pardeville) 4-3. Final match Saturday afternoon in the third place match Bomkamp lost by pin and finished on the podium in fourth place.

Gunn lost his opening match Thursday night against the #4 seeded Logan Peterson (Cumberland) by pin. Friday morning in the consolation sub quarters Gunn matched up against the 12th seed Marcus Klar (Aquinas) winning by fall in 2:45. In the consolation quarters Gunn lost to by major decision to the third seeded Jacob Danenberg (Mineral Point).

Recognition highlights SSM Health's commitment to quality healthcare

SSM Health Monroe Hospital announced it has been recognized for the sixth time as a 2026 Top 100 Rural and Community Hospital by The Chartis Center for Rural Health. The Top 100 awards program celebrates outstanding performance annually among the nation's rural hospitals based on the results of the Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX®.

"We are incredibly proud to be recognized once again as a Top 100 Rural and Community Hospital," said Chelsea Hardacre, Interim President of SSM Health Monroe Hospital. "This achievement reflects the unwavering commitment of our caregivers to ensure our neighbors have access to high-quality, compassionate care close to home. Investing in the health of our local community is at the heart of our Mission, and this honor reinforces the impact of that work."

Now in its 16th year, the INDEX is the industry's most comprehensive and objective assessment of rural hospital performance. Leveraging publicly available data, the INDEX is utilized nationwide by rural hospitals, health systems with rural affiliates, hospital associations, and state offices of rural health to measure and monitor performance across a variety of areas impacting hospital operations, quality, patient perspective and finance.

"The delivery of care within rural communities is perhaps more complex today than at any point in recent memory. This year's Top 100 Rural and Community Hospitals have emerged as true leaders—committed to their mission through a powerful combination of resilience, dedication and innovation," said Michael Topchik, Executive Director of The Chartis Center for Rural Health. "We're delighted to recognize this year's winners and celebrate their Top 100 status."

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By Laura Roth, Children's Librarian

Albertson Memorial Preschool Story Time took flight last week, reading stories about things that go: airplanes! The kiddos chanted 'Go! Planes, Go!' (by Boswell), learning about all different kinds of airplanes and how they help people and animals. Yellow Copter (by Hamilton) tells the story of a teacher stranded on top of a Ferris wheel and the helicopter that helped get her down. Finally, Construction Site: Taking Flight (by Rinker) showed how airports, especially runways are made. The craft for the day was four different kinds of paper airplanes using a variety of materials, including straws and cotton swabs. Of course, the airplanes needed test flight, so the preschoolers and their grown-ups took advantage of the balcony in the library. What a fun chaos, running up and down the stairs to test them over and over. Everyone agreed that the helicopter worked the best of all.

Are you ready for another set of dog and cat stories? Pete the Cat, Old MacDonald (by Dean) is sure to inspire some singing and Have You Got My Purr? (by West) will get everyone puzzling. Everyone will get to make their own friendly kitten to take home, using a tube of black cardstock and some acrylic markers.

Story Time meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. at Albertson Memorial Library in Albany. There's always a range of activities and all kinds of fun. We'd love to meet some new friends. Won't you come make a kitten for yourself?



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Girls Basketball Players are Class Act

Darlington rolled into Brodhead last Friday for the semi-regional final. The atmosphere was one of playoff caliber inside Brodhead High School with the band and fans showing their school colors. The Redbirds got out to a quick start and before the Cardinals could shake their tail feathers, they were behind 5–15 with quick shooting from their opponent. Allie Dahl managed the first score for the home team. When she was doubled teamed, Ella Olson and Chesney Walker took their opportunities to add to the scoreboard. Dahl managed a pass to Taiya Hawkins who dropped in an easy layup to bring the score to 9–17. Walker followed with back-to-back trays followed by Olson getting a jump shot to tie the game at 17 all. Darlington found their muster and in short order had 34 points for a 13-point lead. Dahl pulled up for the fade away launch from the perimeter to make it a 24–34 half-time score. The Redbirds came out hot from the locker room, widening their lead by eighteen. They tallied 5-of-7 three-point buckets in the second half, shot 76% from the free throw line and out rebounded the Cardinals. Head coach, Mike Flanagan was heard to say his team had not had a night like this the entire season. Brodhead's Dahl and Olson had 16 and 12 points respectively, as a team the Cards were 7 of 15 from the stripe. The season may have abruptly ended before the Brodhead girls were ready for it, but they are a class act team that recorded some memorable moments throughout the season.

Darlington played #1 seed Deerfield on Saturday and lost. Other

Notice



AGENDA
BRODHEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, March 11, 2026
2501 W. 5th Avenue, Brodhead, WI 6:30 p.m.

- AGENDA**
 I. REVIEW BILLS
 II. REVIEW BUDGET UPDATE
 III. ADJOURN
 03/04/2026

AGENDA
BRODHEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, March 11, 2026
DISTRICT OFFICE BOARD ROOM
2501 W. 5th Avenue, Brodhead, WI 7:00 p.m.

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda.

- JOIN WITH GOOGLE MEET:**
<https://meet.google.com/oiv-jiji-thn>
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 (PIN: 996403637)
- I. CALL TO ORDER
 - II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
 - III. ROLL CALL
 - IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
 - V. INFORMATION REPORTS
 - VI. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
- AGENDA**
- VII. CONSENT AGENDA
 1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
 2. APPROVAL OF BILLS
 3. ACCEPT DONATION(S)
 4. RESIGNATION(S)
 5. EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATION(S)
 - VIII. MID-YEAR DISTRICT GOALS UPDATE
 - IX. COLLEGE/TECH CREDIT APPROVALS
 - X. APPROVAL OF CONTRACTED & VOLUNTEER COACHES
 - XI. APPROVAL OF SUMMER MAINTENANCE PROJECTS
 - XII. APPROVAL OF GARBAGE/RECYCLING CONTRACT
 - XIII. 2026-27 BUDGET DISCUSSION/CUTS
 - XIV. FUTURE AGENDA
 - XV. ROLL CALL VOTE TO CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO WI. STS. 19.85 (1)(e)
 - a. Staff Reports
 - b. Bus Contract
 - XVI. ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS
 - XVII. ADJOURNMENT
 Persons needing special accommodations should call (608) 897-2141 at least twenty-four [24] hours prior to the meeting.
 03/04/2026

area schools moving onto sectional action later this week include Albany Monticello, and Edgerton.

Cardinal Boys Look to Regional Action

The Brodhead boys closed out their regular season last week with Beloit Turner at home last Monday. The Trojans were on a mission to take down the Cardinals hoping to catch a piece of the conference crown. They succeeded with a 77–30 score with strong rebounding and success at stealing the ball. No other stats were available at press time.

In the final game at Big Foot, Brodhead was in it until halfway through the first period. The Chiefs then pulled away, 39–20 at the break. They added 40 more points in the second. Sam Searls was contained to 10 total points for the Cards, Nolan Bump led Brodhead with 17 points. Logan Krupke, Braylon Strehlow with Bump and Searls hit some key 3-point shots in the second the team could not overtake Big Foot who went on score 79–50 for the win. Edgerton and Beloit

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
BRODHEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT
District Office Board Room
Wednesday, February 11, 2026
Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Board Vice President Elizabeth Kempel at 7:00 p.m. The meeting agenda was published in the Wednesday, February 4, 2026 edition of the Brodhead Free Press and properly building posted on February 6, 2026.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Elizabeth Kempel, Michael Oellerich, Al Schneider, Don Buchanan, Jenny Flory, and Paul Donovan
 Absent: Mike Krupke

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Jenny Flory, second by Don Buchanan, to approve the agenda.

Motion carried, 6-0.

INFORMATION REPORTS

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No one was present to give public comments.

AGENDA ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- a. Steering Committee: January 26, 2026
- b. B&G Meeting: January 28, 2026
- c. Regular Meeting: January 28, 2026

2. APPROVAL OF BILLS

3. ACCEPT DONATION(S)

•None at this time

4. RESIGNATION(S)

•None at this time.

5. EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATION(S)

a. Bailey Dorn, ES Special Education Paraprofessional
 Motion by Don Buchanan, second by Jenny Flory, to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

Motion carried, 6-0.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRESENTATION—

ALL DAY 4K PROGRAM

Principal Knox presented information on the Elementary School's plan and curriculum for the upcoming all day 4K program beginning with the 2026-2027 school year.

PRELIMINARY 2026-27

BUDGET DISCUSSION

District Administrator Novy presented projected budget deficits for the 2026-2027 school year. Discussion was had regarding potential staffing and cuts for the upcoming year. No action was taken.

APPROVAL OF SUMMER SCHOOL

TIMELINES & GUIDELINES

Motion by Michael Oellerich, second by Don Buchanan, to approve the 2026 Summer School start date of June 8, 2026, end date of July 3, 2026, and daily schedule as presented.

Motion carried, 6-0.

REFERENDUM UPDATE

District Administrator Novy presented information regarding the ongoing Bond Refendum building project.

FUTURE AGENDA [February 25, 2026] -

At Albrecht Elementary School

- Approval of Minutes
- Accept Donation(s)
- Resignation(s)
- Employment Recommendation(s)
- 4K Addition Tour
- Referendum Update
- Preliminary 2026-27 Budget Discussions

ROLL CALL VOTE TO CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION

PURSUANT TO WI. STS. 19.85 (1)(e)

Motion by Michael Oellerich, second by Al Schneider, to go into Closed Session under WI. STS. 19.85 (1)(c) at 8:08 p.m. for the discussion and possible action regarding personnel matters, including:

- a. Employee on FMLA Leave
- b. Employee Retirement and Benefits Request

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Motion by Michael Oellerich, second by Don Buchanan, to return to open session at 8:33 p.m.

Motion carried, 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Don Buchanan, second by Michael Oellerich, to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Motion carried, 6-0.

ACTION ITEM

BRODHEAD WATER & LIGHT COMM	11,526.84
BSN SPORTS, LLC	115.00
CEDAR CREEK LANDSCAPING	2,525.00
EVANSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL	350.00
MENEHAN REFRIGERATION	385.00
MONONA PLUMBING AND FIRE PROTECTION	1,124.56
MOUNT HOREB HIGH SCHOOL	180.00
NEW DOCUMENTS & LABELS INC	319.17
PIGGLY WIGGLY	160.13
SPEICH OIL INC	672.24
SSM HEALTH - MONROE CLINIC MEDICAL GROUP	5,935.95
MARTINSON, JAY	160.00
NAPA AUTO PARTS	214.94
OFFICE PRO	1,354.35
SCHMITT, MATT	120.00
PIGGLY WIGGLY	148.45
ANDERSON, SCOTT	110.00
JARVIS, NICHOLAS L	120.00
KAMMERER, BRIAN J	120.00
ANDERSON, SCOTT	120.00
SYMMETRY ENERGY SOLUTIONS, LLC	14,715.84
JOHNSON, JESSE	160.00
AIRGAS USA, LLC	137.09
CDW GOVERNMENT INC	1,278.81
IMAGINE LEARNING	198.00
MIDAMERICA	81,258.76
VOIGT MUSIC CENTER	658.25
WI DEPT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION	5,306.00
1901 INC	13,172.00
ARGYLE HIGH SCHOOL	140.00
GASSER TRUE VALUE HARDWARE	665.76
MONROE HIGH SCHOOL	200.00
PIGGLY WIGGLY	141.52
REILLY, PENNER & BENTON LLP	29,850.00
SSM HEALTH MEDICAL GROUP	8,978.84
U.S. CELLULAR	317.50
VETERANS FLOORS INC	4,525.00
WIL-KIL PEST CONTROL	142.54
BADGER SPORTING GOODS	1,065.00
CDW GOVERNMENT INC	935.04
CESA #2	3,095.33
EBSCO INFORMATION SERVICES	1,166.38
FOLLETT CONTENT SOLUTIONS LLC	521.24
FOSTER & FOSTER	985.00
GORDON FOOD SERVICE INC	16,920.48
HURT, STEPHANIE R	149.10
KOBUSSEN BUSES LTD	64,861.06
KOMPAS CARE	496.42
NASCO	388.38
OFFICE PRO	4,947.80
PAN-O-GOLD BAKING CO	573.21
PRAIRIE FARMS DAIRY INC	8,362.23
RHYME BUSINESS PRODUCTS	1,633.07
SYSCO FOOD SERVICES OF BARABOO	13,459.63
BODELL, PAUL	128.00
BRODHEAD FREE PRESS	480.02
BRUGGEMAN, BRIAN M	300.00
CLINTON MIDDLE SCHOOL	110.00
EARLEYWINE, KATHY	150.00
EVANSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL	200.00
GREEN COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPT	446.66
HOBART SERVICE/ITW FOOD EQUIP	368.00
JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL	125.00
LODI HIGH SCHOOL	330.00
MOUNT HOREB HIGH SCHOOL	200.00
PEPSI-COLA	1,288.99
POYNETTE HIGH SCHOOL	200.00
RHYME BUSINESS PRODUCTS LLC	869.94
RIESTERER, BETH A	400.00
RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT	300.00
SSM HEALTH - MONROE CLINIC MEDICAL GROUP	5,653.86
EVANSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL	350.00
ALBANY LANES	135.00
BRODHEAD SPORTS BOOSTERS	1,051.11
BSN SPORTS, LLC	884.00
COUNTRY MEATS	236.00
PEPSI-COLA	367.18
PIGGLY WIGGLY	122.92
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	373.18
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	257.69
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	323.48
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	447.76
BFG SUPPLY CO.	676.42
PEPSI-COLA	665.40
PIGGLY WIGGLY	184.65
CERJAK, TIMOTHY J	1,659.63
UW PLATTEVILLE	669.00
WISCONSIN ASSOC OF FFA	175.00
BRODIE TROPHY CO	1,303.17
DUNNUM, MONTE	300.00
GIBBS, CALLIE	1,500.00
MUSICBOX ENTERTAINMENT LLC	300.00
PIGGLY WIGGLY	118.47
ROEMER, PAUL	510.00
GORDON FOOD SERVICE INC	168.06
VOIGT MUSIC CENTER	1,675.15
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BRODHEAD	622.12

Date: 02-11-26 \$100 Bill List

Vendor Name	Check Amount
STRUTZ, CURT	497.50
WOJTANOWSKI, DAN	120.00
AIRGAS USA, LLC	375.86
AWSA-WFEA	328.00
BOEGLI, WADE L	110.00
BROWN, ROBERT	110.00
MARTENSON, LAUREL B	250.00
RENNING, LEWIS & LACY, S.C.	245.00
VOIGT MUSIC CENTER	336.58
BELLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL	175.00

Turner share the Rock Valley Conference title.

Brodhead will travel to Bellville for regional quarter final game on Tuesday this week. The winner will take on #1 Darlington on Friday.

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SCAN ME!



Superintendent Dave Novy, art teachers Tiffany Shelton, ES, Erica Foulker, MS, Erika Raess, HS and Addie Fulton, chair of the Optimist Club Annual Drawing and Painting Contest.

Brodhead Optimist Club Drawing and Painting Contest

The Brodhead Optimist Club, chartered in May 2002, is dedicated to "Bringing Out the Best in Kids". One of its many activities is sponsoring the Drawing and Painting Contest for Brodhead School District artists. This year's contest had 14 entries, the most in recent years. There were three entries from the elementary school, six entries from the middle school and five entries from the high school. This year's theme was "Seasons in Your Hometown" and the entries were judged

on originality, creativity and presentation. Four of the nine winning artist and parents, their art teachers and Superintendent Dave Novy joined the Optimist Club members during their weekly morning meeting at the Country Garden Restaurant for gifts and pictures. Each winning artist was given a monetary award (\$25, \$15, \$10) and 12 post cards featuring their artwork, courtesy of the Optimist Club and the Register Print Center. Addie Fulton, chair of the Optimist Club

Annual Drawing and Painting Contest sent Thank You cards to the five other artists encouraging them to continue their artistic talent and enter next year's contest. The Optimist Club also presented Dave Novy and art teachers with a monetary donation to be used in support of Brodhead's three art departments.



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First place winner fourth grader Haleigh Jubie and her art teacher, Tiffany Shelton. Letty Foster, second place and Carter Lincicum, third place were unable to attend.



Middle school winners and their art teacher, Erica Foulker. Rylee Helgestad, placed first, Rory Freeland, placed second and Moira Logan placed third.



Naia Lazzari, HS Junior, first place and her art teacher, Erika Raess. Unable to attend: Lily Kuebli placed second and Miranda Nelson placed third.