

## Why does the Brodhead School District Need a Referendum?

By David Novy, District Administrator, Brodhead School District

The Brodhead School District will present a facility (bond) referendum on Tuesday, April 2. If voters approve the facility (bond) referendum, it gives the Board the authority to proceed with the work outlined in the referendum question. The District is asking for \$17,485,000, to be repaid over a maximum of 21 years. The actual referendum asks the following:

"Shall the School District of Brodhead, Green and Rock Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to issue pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$17,485,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of a school building and facility improvement project consisting of: construction of additions, renovations, including for secure entrances, window

replacements, bathroom upgrades, capital maintenance, building infrastructure and site improvements at Albrecht Elementary School and Brodhead Middle School; construction of an addition and renovations at Brodhead High School, including for a secure entrance and office; and acquisition of furnishings, fixtures and equipment?"

A facility (bond) referendum asks for voter approval to allow the School Board to borrow money to invest in large assets such as buildings and equipment and other higher cost items that cannot be paid for within an annual budget. Facility improvements almost always involve borrowing money over a certain length of time, which is what the Brodhead School District is seeking.

The Brodhead School Board listened to community feedback

(Continued to page 8)



Swan-Gehr Post 197 commander Bruce Sutherland presented John Harvey a Certificate of Continuous Membership. John has been a member of Post 197 for 70 years.



Star Scout Aiden Arn gave a presentation to the American Legion Post 197 on Monday, March 4th. Aiden presented the yearly Brodhead Troop 108 activities and camp outs to the members. American Legion Post 197 and VFW 6858 co-sponsor the Troop as a Charter Organization upon which the Troop has been active since 1939.



## Brodhead Candidate Forum

In continuation of the Chamber of Commerce's Meet The Candidate night on Wednesday, February 28th, Better Brodhead will be hosting a Candidate Forum. This will be another opportunity for community members to meet the candidates and ask questions. The Forum will be held on Thursday, March 28, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Brodhead Memorial Public Library.

Join them as they hear from the candidates regarding the issues that are important to the community of Brodhead. The candidates running for election are:

Mayor—Edward "Casey" Jones and Tom Simpson; Alderperson—Paul Naramore, J. Michael Lowery, Jill Baxter, and Ben Gritzmaker; Judge: Rich Bennett.

For more information email Jessica Marass at [jmarass@betterbrodhead.org](mailto:jmarass@betterbrodhead.org).

## Airmail Beacons in Southern Wisconsin Fields

The Albany Historical Society will present Airmail Beacons in Southern Wisconsin Fields on Tuesday, March 19th at 7 p.m. Modern day navigation and our understanding of getting from point A to point B was influenced heavily by the U.S. Postal Service's beacon towers. Note that one beacon was located in western Decatur Township.

Airmail was a critical component to the development of American aviation in the 1920s and 30s but how, and why, did this affect rural towns and real people? This presentation will explore the role light beacons played in the advancement of airmail, airways, and navigation, shedding astonishing new light on aviation and USA history.

Presenter Michael John Jaeger is a volunteer docent and researcher at the Kelch Aviation Museum.

The program will be after a short general meeting. All are welcome, no charge. The museum is located at 119 N. Water Street in Albany. Questions can be addressed by texting or calling 608-214-8289.

## Optimist Drawing and Painting Contest

The Brodhead Optimists are inviting all Brodhead students ages 18 and younger to enter their 2024 Drawing and Painting Contest. This year's theme is "What Does Happiness Mean to You?" Create original artwork for a chance to win cash prizes for first, second and third place in your age category. Submit your artwork to the front office of your school no later than Monday, April 1. The Optimists will judge the artwork for originality, creativity and presentation of the artwork.

Please fill out an index card with the following information included name, age, address, parents name and phone number and I certify that I created this work of art and attach to your artwork.

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Ham Dinner      7 oz. Ribeye w/3 pc. Shrimp  
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Albany Hilltop Community Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Albany. Web site: hilltopalbany.com.

Albany United Methodist Church, 500 Park Street, Albany. 608-862-3206, Rev. Tom Moe, Pastor. Sunday worship at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. 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 Pastor Callie Arendt. Email: office@bethlembrodhead.org. Website: www.bethlembrodhead.org. Sunday in-person worship with Communion at 9 a.m. On-line 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.

Brodhead Church of the Nazarene, 1004 13th Street. Pastor Ken Lawson. Adult worship 10-11 a.m.; children's church 10-11a.m.

Congregational United Church of Christ, E201 23rd Street, Brodhead. 608-897-2917. Pastor Shawn Stapleton. Sundays: 10 a.m. worship. Sunday school every other Sunday at 8:45 a.m. Nursery care 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.

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.

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Cremation Services*

evening service. Wednesday 6 p.m. service.

Juda-Zion Community Church, N2350 Church Street, 608-934-5398. Kelly Jahn, 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. Pastor Russ Doebl. 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; Sunday evening Impact Youth 4-5:30 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 N Manjrekar. 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. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, 1005 W. 2nd Avenue, Brodhead, part of Pastorate 11, Madison Diocese. 608-325-9506. Father David, Paochial Administrator. Mass at 8:15 a.m. Wednesday and on the first Sunday of the month at noon.

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. Handicapped accessible. In-person worship at 9 a.m. Sundays. Services live streamed on Facebook.

OBITUARIES



Louis E. Wilke

Louis E. Wilke, age 89, of Footville, passed away on Saturday, March 2, 2024, at home. He was born in Footville on December 19, 1934, the son of Verne and Hattie (Fromholtz) Wilke. In his younger years, he worked as a machine operator for a Textile Manufacturing Company. He married Virginia A. Webster on May 13, 2000, at Little Brown Church in Nashua, Iowa. Louis enjoyed visiting his brother's farm and spending time with family. He enjoyed reading the newspaper and watching the Packers and Badgers and Lawrence Welk. He was a former member of Orfordville Lutheran Church.

Louis is survived by his wife, Virginia; four nephews: Steven (Marilyn) Wilke, Daniel (Leslie) Jorgensen, Robert (Tamara) Webster and Time (Jamie) Webster; three nieces: Sylvia (Vernon) Murray, Christine (Dan) Drefahl and Kellie (Scott) Magsamen; special great nephew, Josh Webster; and numerous great nephews, great nieces and other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Verne E. Wilke; sister-in-law, Rosemary Wilke; sister, Beverly (Clifford) Ryan; nephew, Edward A. Jorgensen; brother and sister-in-law, Lee (Donna) Webster; and brother-in-law, Herbert C. Jorgensen.

A funeral service was held at 11 a.m. on Monday, March 11, at Apfel Wolfe Funeral Home d, Janesville with Chaplain Randy Booth officiating. Burial was at Maple Hill Cemetery, Evansville. Visitation took place on Monday, March 11, from 10 a.m. until the time of service at the funeral home. For on-line condolences: www.apfelwolfe.com

VOLLEYBALL

Sunday Night Volleyball

Final standings: I'd Smack That won 51 lost 3, The Goon Squad 40-14, That's What She Set 38-16, Victorious Secret 37-17, One Hit Wonders 36-18, Net Ninjas 30-24, All Sets are Off 24-30, Nirvana 21-33, Killer Serves 14-40, Valued Volleyers 12-42, Super Soy 11-43, Chewblocka 10-44.



Helen (Watson) Tenney

Helen (Watson) Tenney, of Richland Center, Wisconsin, passed away on Monday, March 4, 2024, after a short stay at Skaalen Nursing Home in Stoughton, Wisconsin. She was born on December 27, 1935 to Ray and Mae Watson. Helen grew up near Dieter Hollow, graduated from Blue River HS as valedictorian, and went on to graduate from Richland Teacher's College. On January 15, 1955, she married Howard Tenney, and they enjoyed 49 wonderful years together. They loved to travel and made many memories together at their place in Genoa near the Mississippi River and at their lakefront summer home at Crystal Lake Resort in Lodi.

For two years, Helen taught all eight grades in a one-room schoolhouse near Sand Prairie, Wisconsin. She then worked for many years at Leyda Motors Car Dealership in Richland Center as head bookkeeper. Eventually, she and Howard ran Tenney Auto Center, their own used car dealership, in Gotham. They also raised their two children, Steven and Alicia, and nothing brought them more joy than attending their children's and grandchildren's sporting and music events.

After Howard's death in 2004 and Helen's retirement, she enjoyed volunteering at the Richland Hospital information desk and gift shop, along with the local thrift store and election polls. She loved bowling, served as president of her league, and bowled with the same group of ladies for many years. Despite a shoulder fracture with extensive

repair and being told she would never bowl again. Helen proved them wrong and was back on the lanes within a year. She was a lifetime member of the First Baptist Church, where she served as treasurer and was also happy to help out with anything her church needed. Helen was a remarkable example of the value of hard work and volunteerism throughout her life.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband, Howard; parents, Mae and Ray Watson; stillborn son, Jonathan; mother and father-in-law, Leah and Horatio Tenney; sisters: Nona (Darold) Coppernoll, Ruth (Archie) Beighley, and Berniece (Meral) Bailey; brother, Harold Watson; daughter-in-law, Martha Tenney; and nephew, Karl Beighley.

Survivors include son, Steven Tenney (Martha, deceased) of Verona; daughter, Alicia (James) Bettenhausen of Albany; grandson: Daniel (Kristen) Tenney and children: Elijah, Isaac, and Isabella of Fitchburg; granddaughter, Leah (Noah) Dekok and children: Reese and Nolan of San Diego, California; grandson, Brandan Bettenhausen of Terre Haute, Indiana; grandson, Nathan Bettenhausen of Cincinnati, Ohio; sister-in-law, Alice Watson of Blue River; and many nieces, nephew, and close friends.

Helen was the most giving, sweet, kind, and selfless person many of us have ever known. Alicia, Steven, and family were blessed with the very best!

She will be missed beyond measure by everyone who knew her.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, March 15, at 11 a.m. at the Pratt Memorial Chapel with burial to follow in the Richland Center Cemetery. A livestream of the service can be viewed at the Pratt Funeral and Cremation Service website. Visitation will be held on Thursday, March 14, at the Pratt Memorial Chapel from 5 until 7 p.m., and again on Friday, March 15, from 9 a.m. until the time of the service at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorials in Helen's name be directed to the First Baptist Church or GRACE (Greater Richland Area Cancer Elimination). The Pratt Funeral and Cremation Service is assisting the family with their arrangements. prattfuneralservice.com

Brodhead Evening Garden Club to meet

The Brodhead Evening Garden Club invites you to join them if you have an interest in flowers, plants, or anything that grows in dirt. This is the club for you!

They meet on the third Tuesday of each month at the Brodhead Senior Center at 6:30 p.m. They welcome your questions, suggestions and stories. Please join them and meet new friends. Want more informaiton? Call 608-931-5551. The next meeting is Tuesday, March 19—see you there!

Lent in Brodhead

This year, several Brodhead churches are inviting the public to join them for Midweek Lenten worship and fellowship. Sponsored by the Brodhead Ministers' Fellowship, this special series of gatherings will celebrate the unity of our Christian witness while sharing in prayer and proclamation, as well as introspection. Each gathering will take place Wednesdays at noon at the locations indicated. Participants are invited to bring their own lunches. Beverages and dessert will be provided.

Wednesday, March 20—Congregational United Church of Christ, E201 23rd Street. Preacher: Rev. Francois Mukosa, Brodhead United Methodist Church;

Wednesday, March 27—Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 405 E. 9th Avenue. Preacher: Rev. Shawn Stapleton, Congregational United Church of Christ.

Next Generation 4-H Club Craft Fair

The Next Generation 4-H Club Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, March 23, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Juda Community Center, N2350 County Road S, Juda. In case of snow the date is Sunday, March 24. Admission is free. Stop in to see the amazing vendors as well as treat yourself to breakfast or lunch.

They have something for everyone!

Annual spring meeting Gap Church Museum and Cemetery Association

The annual spring meeting of the Gap Church Museum, Inc. and Cemetery Association will be held on Saturday, March 30, at 1 p.m. at the church, weather permitting. All interested parties are welcome.

2024 Gap Church Cemetery notice

A reminder that it is time to prepare the cemetery for spring—Gap Church Cemetery, W2401 State Road 59, Albany, WI.

Please remove any flowers and decorations you wish to save by Monday, April 1st to allow adequate time to clean up.

Do not place spring or summer items until Wednesday, May 1st.

**A LITTLE GOOD NEWS**

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"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how made them feel."

*~Maya Angelou*



**NEWS**



## ACTIVITIES AROUND TOWN

### BRODHEAD LIONS AND LEOS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Brodhead Lions and Leos are having their fall pancake breakfast to raise money for Brodhead School District field trips. The breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 23, at the Albrecht Elementary School, from 7 to 11 a.m. All you can eat pancakes, eggs, sausage, applesauce, coffee, milk and orange juice. There is no charge for the meal. They are asking only for your free will donation.

### SUMMER YOUTH BALL SIGN-UP

The Youth Ball sign-up for kids currently in 5K and up, will take place Thursday, February 15th–Friday, March 15th. Please stop down to City Hall between 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Monday–Friday, to sign your child up. After 4:30 p.m., registration packet(s) and payment can be placed in the drop box outside of City Hall. Anyone signing up after Friday, March 15th, 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](http://www.cityofbrodheadwi.us)

There are several leagues to accommodate the different age groups:

Girls: 8U—5K-first-second grades (\$35); 10U—third-fourth grade (\$50); 12U—fifth-sixth grade (\$50); and 14U—seventh-eighth grade (\$50).

Boys: 8U—5K-first-second grades (\$35); 10U—third-fourth grade (\$50); 12U—fifth-sixth grade (\$50); and Pony seventh grade (\$80).

Forms need to be completed and turned in with a fee by Wednesday, March 15th, in order for your child to participate in the program. Leagues will begin in late May or early June. Any questions, call Domanic at the Park and Rec Department 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.

### BRODHEAD PARK AND REC INDOOR YOUTH SOCCER

The Brodhead Parks and Recreation Department will be sponsoring a four-week youth indoor soccer program for boys and girls in K–first grade. The program will meet after school on Mondays for kindergartners and Thursdays after school for first graders in the elementary school gym. The program begins on Monday, March 18th and ends on Monday, April 15th. This program is for children at all skill levels and it will teach basic skills and fundamentals.

Forms are available at the elementary school, the Brodhead Parks and Recreation Department or on the City of Brodhead Website. The cost is \$20. Forms need to be completed and turned in with the fee by Friday, March 15th to the school office or Rec Department. Children are encouraged to wear tennis shoes and shin guards. Checks make payable to the City of Brodhead. If you have any questions, contact Domanic at Park and Rec at 608-897-2159.

### BRODHEAD PARK AND REC THIRD AND FOURTH GRADE DODGEBALL PROGRAM

The Brodhead Parks and Recreation Department will be sponsoring a four-week DODGEBALL program for boys and girls in third-fourth grades. The program will be on Tuesday afternoons from 3:15-4:30 p.m. at the Brodhead Elementary School meeting April 2, 9, 16 and 23. They'll form new teams each week and learn how to play the original version as well as some variations of this awesome game.

Registration forms are available at the schools and at the Brodhead Park and Rec Department or on the City of Brodhead Website (<http://www.cityofbrodheadwi.us>) the cost is \$20. Forms need to be completed and turned in with fee by Thursday, March 28th to the office or Rec Department. Checks made payable to the City of Brodhead. If you have any questions, please call Domanic at 608-897-2159.

### CHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE MEETING

A softball organizational meeting for Sunday Night Church league has been set for Wednesday, April 10th at 6 p.m. at City Hall. All managers must be there or at least a team representative must be present to guarantee a spot in the league. If you are interested in entering a team or have any questions regarding the league, please call Domanic Wiegel at the Parks and Recreation Office at 608-897-2159.

### MENS SOFTBALL LEAGUE MEETING

A softball organizational meeting for the Tuesday Night, 25 and Over league has been set for Wednesday, April 10th at City Hall beginning at 6:45 p.m. All managers must be there or at least a team representative. If you are interested in getting a team in the league or have any questions, please call Domanic Wiegel at the Parks and Recreation Office at 608-897-2159.

### ATTENTION ADULT SOFTBALL TEAMS

If you are interested in getting a team in the Sunday Night Church Coed League, Tuesday Night Men's Master's League or would like to play on a team, call Domanic at the Park and Rec Office at 608-897-2159 ext.9. Leagues will begin in May.

## Albrecht Elementary accepting four- and five-year old kindergarten applicaitons

Albrecht Elementary School is now accepting new four- and five-year-old kindergarten applications for the 2024-2025 school year. If you have a child who will be turning four by Sunday, September 1st of this year, he/she will be eligible to attend school in the fall.

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 21st between 4 and 7 p.m. They 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 the program and answer any questions you may have.

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

## Respect for Law Enforcement Poster Contest

Sponsored by the  
Brodhead Optimists

Make a poster and you could win a prize! All you have to do to enter is create a poster showing how much you appreciate members of the police or sheriff's department.

Requirements:

- Your poster must be a minimum of 8.5"x11". It can be larger.
- You can use words showing your appreciation, but pictures are better.
- On the back you need to include your first and last name, age, phone number and also a few sentences telling us about your poster.
- All posters need to be turned in by Monday, April 1st. You can turn them in at the school office or the Brodhead Free Press.

PRIZES for elementary entrants are:

First Place: A day with a policeman including lunch, recess and a tour of the inside of a police car!

Second Place: \$10 Gift certificate to McDonald's

Third Place: \$5 Gift certificate to McDonald's

PRIZES for middle schoolers:

First Place: \$25 Visa Gift Card

Second Place: \$10 Gift certificate to McDonald's

Third Place: \$5 Gift certificate to McDonald's

Winners will be notified by Tuesday, April 30th. If you have any questions please contact Lori Jones at 608-897-9401.

## BINGO!! BIG CASH PAYOUTS!! (Running Progressive Pot)

Thurs., Mar. 14 and Thurs., Mar. 21  
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

## BADGER TALKS



Jody Krainer  
Dementia Diagnostic  
Clinic Network  
Manager

"Alzheimer's Disease,  
Dementia, What is the  
Difference?"

Free and open to the public!  
Thursday, March 21 at 6:30pm

200 N Water St  
Albany, WI 53502



## Brodhead Evening Garden Club Scholarship

The Brodhead Evening Garden Club has been offering a scholarship to a graduating high school senior since 2006. This scholarship is open to current seniors of Brodhead, Albany, Orfordville or Evansville including qualified home school applicants, who are pursuing a degree in agriculture, with a preference in horticulture, plant science, landscaping or turf science.

Students may attend a four-year, two-year or technical school. The amount of \$500 will be awarded upon completion of first semester. Applicants are asked to submit an application plus one page essay detailing their high school achievements, grade point average, extra curricular activities, future goals and career objectives. The deadline to submit is Monday, April 15.

Applications must be submitted to Ronald Massen, E314 23<sup>rd</sup> St, Brodhead, WI 53520.

## Screenagers Next Chapter

Better Brodhead is presenting Screenagers Next Chapter on Thursday, March 21, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Brodhead Memorial Public Library. Millions of young people experience high stress, anxiety and depression. In Screenagers Next Chapter: Addressing Mental Health in the Digital Age, they follow physician and filmmaker Delaney Ruston as she discovers solutions for improved adolescent stress, anxiety and depression in the digital age.

## Better Brodhead offering ASSIST training

Better Brodhead is offering a ONE-time, this year, FREE mental health training. The training is called ASIST, which stands for Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training. In this training, you will learn how to recognize someone having thoughts of suicide or someone in a suicide crisis, how to de-escalate someone in crisis, and how to connect them to the proper resources. While this sounds intimidating, this training is vital in saving someone's life.

After you have taken the training, you will be given access to the mental health agencies they have partnered with in Green, Rock, and Lafayette Counties to make direct mental health referrals as you see fit.

This will be held on Friday, April 12th and Saturday, April 13th. Please email [aspeth@betterbrodhead.org](mailto:aspeth@betterbrodhead.org) or call 608-897-9081 to register.

## Juda School District Informational Referendum meeting:

The second of two public informational meetings will be held in the Juda School District cafeteria on Tuesday, March 19 at 7 p.m. Information is available from Traci Davis, District Superintendent, 608-934-5251 or [davis@judaschool.com](mailto:davis@judaschool.com); District website: [www.judaschool.com](http://www.judaschool.com); or Facebook page [www.facebook.com/judaschooldistrict](https://www.facebook.com/judaschooldistrict)



## Youth Art Month

Youth Art Month has been observed nationally since 1961. It is a time to acknowledge a different part of a child’s education. Art gives children the opportunity to express themselves, use their creative imaginations, experiment with a wide variety of materials through multi-sensory experiences, and gain a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment. It teaches children to become critical thinkers, make connections with their heritage, history, and other cultures, and solve problems.

During the month of March, the public library will be showcasing artwork created by students from Albrecht Elementary School, taught by Tiffany Shelton; Brodhead Middle School, taught by Erica Foulker and Brodhead High School, taught by Athena Gates. This is a wonderful opportunity to view student artwork in another setting.

At Brodhead High School students have the opportunity to choose between a wide range of art classes and mediums. Highlighted in this year’s annual Youth Art Month Show are BHS students currently in: Fundamentals of Design, Drawing, Graphic Design, Ceramics, and Advanced Art.



Brodhead High School—back row, left to right: Grayson Arn, Evan Senobe, Lu Sandlin, Henry Droessler, Anton Pfeiffer, Lily Scheidegger, Brooke Mueller; middle row: Dakota Rebout, Prince Fraley-Markley, Achilles Fowler, Lindsay Simons, Hannah Grover, Harper Krattiger, Zoey Hinkle, Montana Schumacher, Kelsey Bedward; front row: Isabela Valentin, Isabelle Ware, Evelynne Droessler, Kan Smital, Leah Rear, Brielle Engen, Lily Kuebli, and Gracie Fields. Not pictured: Molly Regenold, Bennett, Margaret Smital, Jahlin Huebner, Lillian Sievers, Emberly Ast, Presley Stitt, Kiara Quimby and Tyler Coleman.

Brodhead Middle School students have been working on two-dimensional pieces along with three-dimensional sculptures. Each grade level has worked on a clay project this year. Sixth graders created coil pots, seventh grade students created a gnome, and eighth grade students designed and constructed a clay whistle. There are also a handful of mixed media pieces hung alongside the monochromatic self portrait paintings. These were painted by the eighth grade students. There are over 55 pieces showcased from the Middle School.



Sixth grade—back row, left to right: Stella Kempel, Jemma Huntington, Braelyn Olson, Carmen Strohecker, Liam Butters; middle row: Chesnie Malcook, Grayson Wallin, Oliver Mertens, Malachi Mahlkuch, Addisyn Hanson, and Wren Oswald; front row: Logan Douglas, Bryce Bockhop, Amarra Ostenson, and Paige Bauman. Not photographed: Ayva Perez, Emmett Benway, and Easton Riese.



Seventh grade—back row, left to right: Paola Lemus Hernandez, Lluvia Hilario- Herrera, Jessica Guadalupe Mondragon, Emily Steele, Derek Hadley, Arnott Buxton, Jameson Lenthe, Liam Watts, Conner Tracy, Ava Gibbons, London Simons, Natalia Baldazzi; front row: Jenna Grosshuesch, Ashlyn Cayetano Pueblita, Lennon Krattiger, Elena Boston, Braeleigh Schout, Hayden Lewis-Usher, Alexa Jansen, Gracie Hefty and Kinsley Krumweide. Not photographed; Olivia Sutherland, Elise Rear and Josie Hatter.



Eighth grade—back row, left to right: Tyson Kraft, Wyatt Anderson, Taryn Condon, Seger Harding, Trinity Steiner, Paige Swan, Lucy Buchanan, Isabelle Yoshida, Natalie Pierce; front row: Izzy Menzel, Sawyer Phillips, Abby Withrow, Gabby Jones, Abner Paniagua-Moreno, Jasmine Nehls.

Albrecht Elementary School students will showcase a wide variety of projects from the start of the school year. Kindergarten through fifth grade pieces exhibiting painting, printing, collage, drawing, jewelry, and paper manipulation will be on display.



Albrecht Elementary—left to right, back to front: Easton Clark, Brailey Bradt, Cristi Baldazzi, Mykenna Jordan, Khali Byrd, Bentlei Hauser, Leah Foster, Rylee Helgestad, Claire Hefty, Ryu Leverton, Landon Hughes, Fayorah Menuey, Isabella Bennett, Finley Riese, Brandt Schout, Henry Schauer, Charlize Hopwood, Fallon Spradlin, Cambria Elmer, Eleonore Mussared Varga, Brooks Wenger, Eva Valentin, Alex Nelson, Charles Ends, Baylee Houghton, Breleigh Loffelholz, Savannah Wenger, Rose Ends, Ezra Porterfield, Vanessa Riemer.

The Brodhead Memorial Public Library is located at 1207 25th Street and is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Please stop by to view the work created by our spectacular artists!

## Cardinals Baseball Clinic

The 2024 Brodhead-Juda Cardinals Baseball Clinic will be held on Saturday, March 23rd in the Brodhead High School gym for grades third through eighth. The pitching session will be held from 9-11 a.m., followed by the hitting session from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and fielding session from 2-4 p.m. The deadline to register is Friday, March 15. Checks payable to Brodhead-Juda Baseball. Cost includes t-shirt, \$30 single session, \$40 two sessions and \$45 for all three sessions.

The camp staff consists of eight baseball coaches and other current/former high school baseball players. Each camper will be put through a series of drills designed to improve their overall skillset. They will leave with a foundation to build on, as well as having learned multiple drills to take home and continue their work with confidence.



**Abby Hollis, Albany/Monticello, coming “up” the court several minutes into the game v. Argyle/Pecatonica. Albany/Monticello won the game, 37-31. They had lost to Argyle/Pecatonica twice during the regular season. A/M defeated Lena in overtime, 57-54 to win the D5 Championship. (Free Press photo by Duke Goetz/Goetz Imagery)**

## Music In Our Schools—By The Numbers

**By Debbie Bruns and Jenny Flory, Brodhead Music Boosters**

Music in our schools begins as early as kindergarten, when students put on their holiday concerts at the elementary school level. Beginning in fifth grade, students may choose to participate in their first major ensemble, band. This year, 31 out of 68 fifth graders are playing a musical instrument. At the middle school level, we have 39 students in sixth grade band and 71 students in the combined seventh/eighth grade band. In addition, there are 42 middle school students who make up the sixth grade and the seventh/eighth choirs. Out of 220 middle school students, 110 are instrumentalists and 42 are vocalists. With a high school enrollment of 324, the concert band and symphonic band consists of 110 instrumentalists. Combining both choirs, there are 43 vocalists. One thing that makes Brodhead schools unique is the large number of students who choose to participate in our music programs. Between the three buildings, we have a total of five bands and four choirs. These groups meet during the regular school day and include evening events, weekend concerts, and parade performances.

There are extra curricular groups which tempt our musically inclined as well: the musical, middle school jazz, high school jazz, pep band, and show choir. Each February, our Brodhead music department hosts their own annual Solos and Ensembles Festival. Middle and high school students who have worked for weeks perfecting their pieces are able to perform in front of a judge who provides feedback. A select number of events spanning grade levels are then performed later in the evening during an Honors Recital. This year, there were 90 entries with 45 pieces advancing to the Honors Recital. While practices begin early in the academic year, our show choir begins their competitive season in January continuing through February. Show choir consists of both singers/dancers and instrumentalists.

When looking at numbers, we could say our student musicians make up the largest ‘team’ in the district. In fact, our high school musicians are able to earn a varsity letter, similar to any sport or other activity. As students accumulate points, they may receive additional awards each year. Summer camp opportunities are available on college campuses for middle and high school musicians. There are local scholarships, two sponsored by the Brodhead Music Boosters, awarded for those who have dedicated themselves to our school music programs over the years.

With March designated as Music In Our Schools Month, please feel free to attend any of our music events and support our student musicians. Please log onto <https://brodheadmusicboosters.com> for a complete list of events.



## BHS National Honor Society



Senior members of Brodhead NHS include: row one, left to right: Nathan Engen, Brody Kiser, Gavin Pinnow, Joseph Lohmar, Joseph Brown, Nolan Oliver, Blake Matthys; row two: Evangeline Bennett, Kylee Gosnell, Macy Fernandes, Nicole Miller, Paityn Kail, Jaelyn Hilliard, Sophia Leitzen, Addison Yates; row three: Tessa Kloepping, Kalena Riemer, Kiara Quimby, Hailey Thelen, Jerrica Schwartz, Brenley Jones; and, new inductees: Gunner Boegli, Marcus McIntyre and Isaac Saunders. Missing: Onnika Williams. (Free Press photos by Teresa Earleywine)



New inductees representing the junior class include: row one, left to right: Tatum Ceslok, Kyla Miller, Stella Arn, Makenna Schooff; row two: Madilyn Brown, Olivia Hartwig, Kylee Wahler, Ava Risum.



Douglas Pinnow  
Brodhead High School  
Class of 1969

### Friend of Brodhead High School

Douglas has dedicated his entire adult life to the community of Brodhead living the Jaycee creed in every way...“service to humanity is the best work of life.” As a former business owner and mayor, he understands the importance of being visible in the community. He is committed to the present traditions and values of the city while striving for future success. As mayor he was instrumental in helping to build the Comprehensive Plan in 2017, laying out a 20-year plan and vision for continued success while pushing the city forward. He

understood the “balancing act” of maintaining the critical elements of the city while focusing on progress. After a long career of success and numerous accomplishments, the Brodhead Chamber of Commerce created an award in his honor to be presented to individuals in the community for outstanding leadership...the “Douglas Pinnow Leadership Award.” He has always been and will continue to be active in civic and government organizations committed to making Brodhead a great place to work and live.

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### BHS Wall of Fame

Accepting the award for William Broughton—Brodhead High School Class of 1932, are his sister Nancy Broughton and cousin John Bernstein.

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**WISCONSIN SINGERS**

“Guys and Dolls,” a collaborated group of high school students from Brodhead, Juda, and Parkview, are asking for sponsors. We need to raise \$5,000 for Wisconsin Singers to come to Brodhead in order for all ticket proceeds to go towards “Guys & Dolls”. There is no set sponsor fee, whatever amount you feel comfortable donating is appreciated. They will be performing at Brodhead High School Gymnasium at 2:00pm on April 13th.

Donation deadline is March 21, 2024. Please make checks payable to Brodhead High School Show Choir. Mailed donations can be sent to: Brodhead High School, 2501 W. 5th Ave, Brodhead, WI 53520

Tickets can be purchased at the Brodhead High School office. \$15/adult, \$10/youth and 65+, 3 and under are Free.

Please email Niteal Pinnow (Show Choir Director) at npinnow@brodhead.k12.wi.us with any questions. Thanks for your support!

### Jaycees Host Dueling Pianos Splash Pad Fund- raiser

The Jaycees would like to thank everyone who helped make their recent splash pad fund-raiser a success! A dueling pianos show featuring Piano Fondue of Madison was hosted at Ludlow Mansion in Monroe with Knutes catering the food. Thanks to all of the generous silent auction donations, bidders, and attendees the Jaycees were able to raise over \$2,500. This amount will be matched by the Brodhead Area Foundation as well. Thank you to the following:

Event Sponsors: Dave and Kirsten Novy, Design Electric, the Fish Family, and the Oellerich Family; Baked Goods donations: Caked by Paige, Matt Stephen, Julie Teasdale, Dottie May; Silent Auction Donations: Peder Johanson of Portage Point, Mike and Jenny Krause of Sugar River Apiaries, Janna and Dane Merritt of Dane’s Homemade Lemonade Stand, Decatur Dairy, Arn’s Automotive Service, Melissa P Photography, Hart and Blade



Barbershop, Systech Automotive (formerly Kubly’s Auto), Bucciferro Family McDonalds-Brodhead, John Hoff, Kit Jerneagan, Vicki Condon and Suzanne and Jeremy Curtiss of 608 the Factory.

Thanks also to Melissa Popanz for donating her time to photograph the event.

The Jaycees have a goal of raising one million dollars to improve Jaycee Park with no impact to taxpayers. They currently have just over \$100,000 raised. For information on donating, please email Katie Porterfield at brodheadjaycees@gmail.com.

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POLICE

Green County  
Sheriff's Department  
March 4-10, 2024

At approximately 2:42 p.m., Monday, deputies responded to the intersection of State Highway 81 and County Highway GG, Town of Spring Grove, for a report of a two-vehicle accident with no inju-

ries reported. Investigations found that a vehicle operated by Luis Miranda, 49, of Belvidere, entered the intersection when another vehicle, operated by William Fisher, 79, of Brodhead, also entered the intersection at the same time. As a result the two vehicles collided with each other. Miranda reported wearing his seat belt, no injuries, and no air-bag deployment. Fisher reported no injuries, reported wearing his seat belt, and no airbag deployment. Both vehicles sustained functional

Scholarships  
available  
through  
Monroe Clinic  
and Hospital  
Foundation

Monroe Clinic and Hospital Foundation, a member of SSM Health, will be assisting two individuals who may have a financial burden and are unable to otherwise attend Highland Community College (HCC).

The scholarships will financially assist and admit two (2) well-rounded students into the HCC Medical Assistant Program who meet the following criteria:

- Academically able to meet the challenges of the curriculum,
- Well suited for a health care profession and,
- Have exhibited a commitment to serving their communities.

The deadline for application submission is Wednesday, May 1. While encouraged, scholarship recipients are not required to work at SSM Health after the completion of the program.

The application, along with additional information, is available at <https://www.givetossmhealth.org/foundations/wisconsin/monroe-clinic-hospital-foundation/scholarships>. For scholarship questions, please contact Tammie Jamiska at [tammie.jamiska@ssmhealth.com](mailto:tammie.jamiska@ssmhealth.com).

Stateline  
Women's  
Connection  
and  
Stonecraft  
luncheon

The Stateline Women's Connection and Stonecraft cordially invite you to their "Come to the Farm" luncheon on Wednesday, March 20, at noon. The cost is \$15 for the meal. The luncheon will be held at Hope Evangelical Free Church, 2902 13th Street, Monroe. Men are welcome to attend.

The guest speaker will be Kari Fernstaedt, of Monroe, on A Brady Bunch Kind of Life. Kari shares a unique story about growing up in a large blended family. The local spotlight will be Dan Wegmueller, of Wegmueller Farm, a fourth generation Brown Swiss dairy farm.

Reservations are due by Thursday, March 14, by calling Chris at 608-558-3283 or Kim at 608-214-2157 or emailing: [statelinewomenconnection@gmail.com](mailto:statelinewomenconnection@gmail.com).

damage and were driven from the scene.

At approximately 2:53 p.m., Friday, deputies responded to the N1600 block of Haddinger Rd, Town of Clarno, for a report of a single vehicle accident. Investigations found the driver, Wyatt T. Steiner, 16, of Juda, was southbound on Haddinger Road when he reported mechanical trouble with his vehicle. As a result, Steiner struck a mailbox. Steiner reported no injuries, reported wearing his seat belt, and no air-bag deployment. Vehicle was driven from the scene.



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**Cox Limestone Repair**—All tuckpointing and mortar needs on stone barnwalls, basements, foundations. Call 608-314-4713. (03/13)

## For Sale



**Firewood for sale**, cash only. Call 608-879-9014. (tf)

## Hay Sale



**HAY SALES—12 Noon.** LOCATION: Carter and Gruenewald, W2898 County Road KS, Juda, WI. Sellers: NO unloading after 10:30 a.m. on Saturday only trailers and racks. First and third Saturdays. DATES: Saturdays—March 16, April 6 and April 20. There is a skid loader on site—.50 a bale charge. Conducted by Cal Schaver Auctions LLC, Brodhead. Registered Wisconsin Auctioneer #451. 608-897-4648 or 608-558-4377. (03/13)

## School referendum (Continued from page 1)

received through a community survey conducted in December of 2023 and is limiting the request to \$17,485,000, which will address the highest priority items. We will work closely with financial advisors to make fiscally responsible choices, secure the best interest rates, and borrow only what is needed to complete the work.

The Brodhead School District has a proud history of educational and co-curricular accomplishments, while managing the District within a framework of fiscal responsibility to the taxpayers. That focus has led to efficient operations and sensible upgrades to our school buildings in the past.

The last time the District asked the community for funding support via a facility (bond) referendum was close to 20 years ago when HVAC, facility, and classroom upgrades were completed at Albrecht Elementary School.

However, with significant use, the passage of time and changing needs in the District, a comprehensive assessment of our building and grounds became important to address the maintenance and educational needs of all our buildings. The comprehensive assessment identified important facility needs that require attention, and the Board determined now was the time to engage with our staff and community to define a plan to address those needs. Although Brodhead has dedicated funds on an annual basis to maintain school buildings, the cur-

## Notice



**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF JUDA Regular School Board Meeting**  
March 13, 2024, 7:00 p.m.  
Juda School Den (Old Library)  
N2385 Spring St.

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 hearing. There may be a time for public comment during the meeting as indicated in the agenda.

The Finance Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Den.

- AGENDA**
- Call to Order by President Pfingsten
  - Roll Call  
Dennis Pfingsten  
Pat Daniels Sue Trotter  
Laura Powers Janna Merritt  
Jessica Matzke Joel Wallace
  - Pledge of Allegiance
  - Proof of Notice
  - Acceptance of Agenda
  - Open Forum
  - Consent Agenda—Consent agenda items will be approved in one motion; however, any Board member may ask that any individual item be acted on separately.
    - Approval of the minutes of the regular board meeting held on February 21, 2024
    - Treasurer and Financial reports (Action)
    - Approval of Contracts (Action)
    - Resignations/Retirements (Action)
    - Donations (Action)
  - Reports
    - School Staff/Student Report
    - Collaboration Committee Discussion
    - School Board President's Report
    3. Administrator Report
    - Staffing updates
    - Review of events/Upcoming events
    - Other updates as necessary
  - Referendum update: Discussion/Action
  - Field Trips: Discussion/Action
  - Middle School FFA Mission Field Trip—April 11 and 12—overnight at the Chula Vista
  - Five Minute Recess
  - Adjourn into Executive Session according to Wis. State Statutes 19.85 (1) (c) (f)
  - Reconvene into open session and take appropriate action as necessary
  - Future board agenda items and meetings: (discussion/action)  
April 10, 2024
  - Adjournment

03/13/2024

rent priorities exceed our ability to address within annual budgets.

With a Middle School built in 1958, an Elementary School built in 1963, and a High School built in 1996, it is understandable that there are significant needs that we must attend to. Things like windows and electrical systems are inefficient, many rooms are outdated, entryways are not safe and secure, and certain programs have outgrown their spaces. Looking at our needs over the next 10 years, the costs for these updates amount to well over 35 million dollars.

Our School Board is tasked with producing a funding plan, which for Wisconsin school districts is a facility (bond) referendum. Most Districts in our area have run a facility (bond) referendum within the last 10 years, but Brodhead has not conducted a significant facility (bond) referendum since the Brodhead High School was built in 1996, which is why this amount has grown to the current level of need and cost.

Because of ongoing management of the District's finances by our Board, the District has reduced tax rates by over 24% over the last (10) ten years. The referendum being presented will allow the District to address key facility priorities in a fiscally responsible manner.

We will be conducting our third and final information night for residents to learn more about our needs and tour our schools. That meeting



## By Sarah Carpenter, Adult Services and Outreach Librarian

The Albertson Memorial Library will be hosting a very special Badger Talk, 'Alzheimer's Disease, Dementia, What is the Difference?' on Thursday, March 21st at 6:30 p.m. Presenting will be Dementia Diagnostic Clinic Manager, Jody Krainer. Jody is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker that practiced at a large medical and behavioral healthcare system in Waukesha for twenty years. She also has advance education and experience in business and worked as an administrator in a large community based nonprofit in the inner city of Milwaukee for six years. Jody joined the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute in 2016 as the Dementia Diagnostic Clinic Network Manager.

The presentation will discuss the basics about Alzheimer' disease and related dementias. In addition, there will be a review of the risk factors and strategies to minimize risk. There will also be time for Q&A following the presentation. This Badger Talk is free and open to the public, with no registration required. We hope to see you there!

## Albany High Alumni Basketball Tournament

The Albany Alumni Basketball Tournament will be held at the Albany High School gym on Friday, April 5th and Saturday, April 6th. Games will start at approximately 6:30 p.m. on Friday and 11 a.m. on Saturday. 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.

will be held in the High School Auditoria on Tuesday, March 19 at 6 p.m.

We do have a Blog at the following address <https://brodhead-schooldistrict.wordpress.com/> that

## Monday Night Mixed League

3/4—High series: Ryan Flood 732, Robert Murray 692, Tyson Foster 684. High games: R. Flood 264, R. Murray 246, T. Foster 244. Broughton's Bar-high team game 1,001. Deb's Bar-high team series 2,921. **Standings:** Deb's Bar won 25 lost 10, Fosters Gaming 22-13, Center Tavern 22-13, Beloit Chiropractic 14-21, Broughton's Bar 13-22, Albany Lanes 9-26.

## Tuesday Shanigans

3/5—High series: Alexis Sies 512, Barb Brugger 440, Chris Rosheisen 385, Brandon Bong 591, John Thill 567, Ted Yaun 533. High games: A. Sies 185, B. Brugger 162, C. Rosheisen 147, Dan Easton 223, J. Thill 204, B. Bong 200, Rick Josephsen 200. Boomtastic 4-high team game 819 and series 2,411. **Standings:** Albany Lanes won 103 lost 37, Barely Upright 80-60, Boomtastic 4 80-60, Greightful Dead 54-86, Misfits 53-87, Sweet Mini HaHa 50-90.

## Badger

3/5—High series: Keith Riese 716, Cole Krupke 667, Josh Brugger 667, Ethan Pfuetti 642, Megan Anderson 486. High games: D. Sawdey 266, K. Riese 259, J. Brugger 259, Ryan Brugger 248, E. Pfuetti 247, M. Anderson 194. Renks-high team game 954 and series 2,563. **Standings:** Pearl City Elevator won 24 lost 11, Counter Attack 23-12, Renks 17-18, Jim's Mechanic Shop 17-18, Decatur Dairy 16-19, Team 3 8-27.

## Wednesday Night Ladies

3/6—High series: Zoe Krattiger 548, Alice Patchen 447, Julie Williams 442, Jolene Adcock 439, Anna Laughlin 434. High games: Z. Krattiger 189, Darcy Stephenson 172, Tara Blumer 163, Debbie Williams 159, J. Adcock 158, Traci Brewer 158, A. Laughlin 158. Crystal's Team-high team game 628 and series 1,798. **Standings:** Crystal's Team won 58 lost 19, Larson Acres 47-30, Glenn-Ann Ladies 37-40, Albertson's 32-45, Broughton's Bar 31-46, New Glarus Brewery 26-51.

## Thursday Afternoon Ladies

3/7—High series: Nancy Salzwedel 511, Becky Riese 470, Laurie Thommen 413. High games: N. Salzwedel 209, B. Riese 170, Barb Chapman 155. Knutes-high team game 554 and series 1,568. **Standings:** Mike's Flooring won 53 lost 31, Knutes 53-31, Ball's Installation 53-31, Nolte's Garage 49-35, Albany Lanes 38-46.

**Albany Lanes - Scott & Teresa Wahler**  
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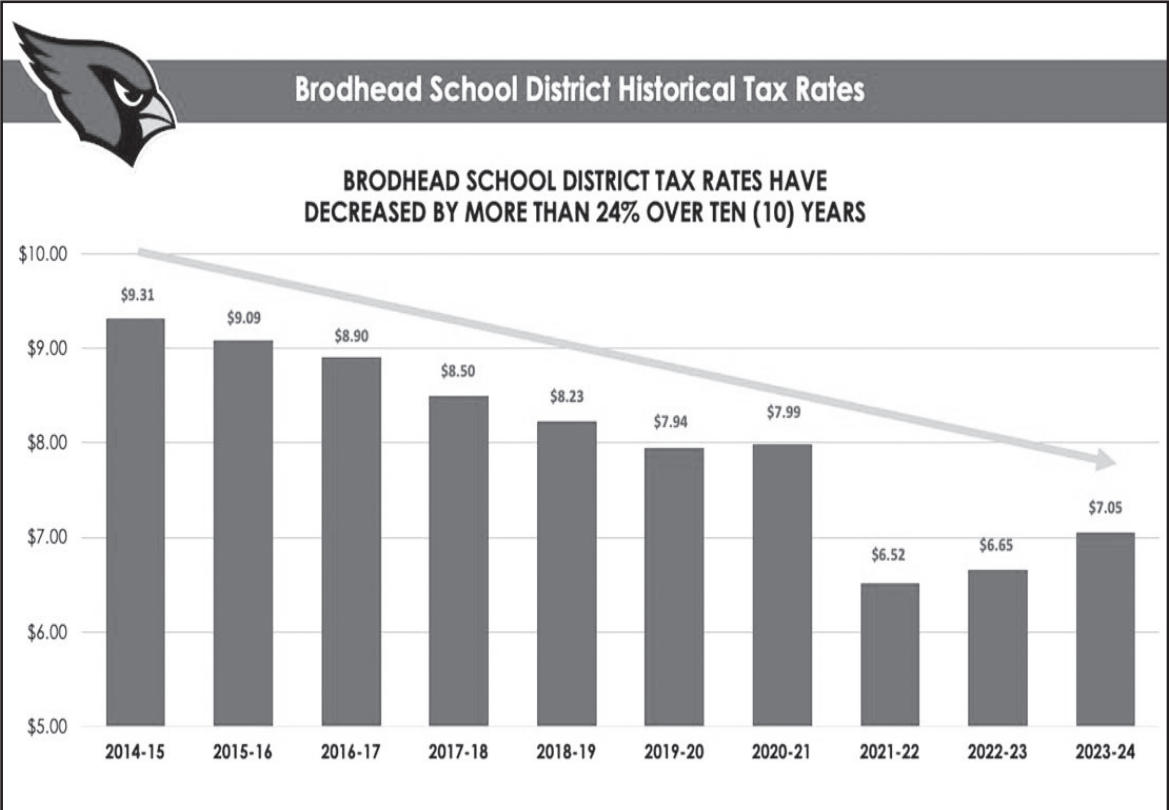
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# Brodhead Music Department Development of the Bands

(Free Press photos by Teresa Earleywine)



Paul Roemer was the perfect choice as emcee for the “Naturally Nature” theme for the annual Developmental Band Concert.



No matter the age, band students and attendees seek out their family and loved ones which shows the value in showing up.



The basket raffle held during the Developmental Band concert is supported by many people participating prior to the start of the concert.

## Juda School District going to referendum

Submitted by Traci Davis, District Superintendent

On Wednesday, January 10, 2024, the Juda Board of Education voted unanimously to go to referendum. The Juda School District will be asking the voters to support the Juda School District with an operational referendum on April 2, 2024. The School District has experienced significant inflationary increases to its operating expenses over the past two years, which were primarily supported by Federal grants. Those grants are no longer available to the School District beginning with the 2024-25 budget. The School District's last operational referendum approved by voters was held November 6, 2018, which allows the School District to exceed the revenue limit by \$350,000 each year. However, the School District's revenue limit has declined for the past two years and reduced the District's operating revenue by approximately \$130,000 each year. The 2024 Referendum would provide funds for operating costs including, but not limited to, maintaining current staff, offering insurance for support staff, and to pay costs of capital projects including boilers, parking lot improvements, building maintenance, repairs and upgrades to the Career and Technical Education Service area.

The 2024 Referendum tax impact begins with including \$500,000 in the December 2024 tax bill and will remain in tax bills (“recurring”). December 2023 tax bills included taxes for one-time debt payments and community services in the amount of \$507,994. The \$507,994 of one-time taxes will not be included in the December 2024 tax bills when the \$500,000 from the 2024 Referendum taxes will be included. The December 2024 tax bills will reflect a simultaneous reduction in taxes of \$507,994 being replaced with the 2024 Referendum taxes of \$500,000, resulting in no increase to the tax levy, described as “tax levy neutral.” The \$500,000 would be included in the school's funding formula once and remains in the formula.

This is the question that will be on the referendum ballot in April: Shall the School Board of the School District of Juda be authorized to exceed the revenue limit under Section 121.91 of the Wisconsin Statutes by an amount of \$500,000 beginning with the 2024-25 school year on a recurring basis for the purpose of paying the District operating costs including, but not limited to, maintaining current staff and offering insurance for support staff and costs of capital projects including boilers, parking lot improvements, building maintenance and repairs and upgrades to the Career and Technical Education services area as provided in the foregoing resolution?

If the 2024 Referendum does not pass, the School Board would have one more opportunity to go back to referendum in either August or November of 2024 with another operational referendum. No funding to maintain staff or to offer health insurance for support staff challenges the District's ability to retain and attract staff. Other options available to the District include prioritizing operating budget reductions, preventing or delaying facility maintenance projects or upgrades to the Career and Technical Education Services area and preventing or delaying the acquisition of equipment or vehicles. Reductions in fund balance to meet the District's operating needs could weaken the District's sound financial position.

The second of two public informational meetings will be held in the Juda School District cafeteria on Tuesday, March 19 at 7 p.m. Information is available from Traci Davis, District Superintendent, 608-934-5251 or [davis@judaschool.com](mailto:davis@judaschool.com) District website: [www.judaschool.com](http://www.judaschool.com) Facebook page [www.facebook.com/judaschooldistrict](http://www.facebook.com/judaschooldistrict)

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