

## How will the Brodhead School District Referendum Affect my Taxes?

By David Novy, District Administrator, Brodhead School District

The referendum amount the Brodhead School District is seeking is \$17,485,000. Approval of this referendum would result in an annual estimated maximum tax increase of \$125 (\$10.42 per month) for every \$100,000 of property value over the current tax rate. Please note this is an estimate provided by Baird Public Finance, the District's financial advisor, based on the best information currently available.

The projected tax levy rate for 2024-25 would be \$8.30, a \$1.25 increase from the District's levy rate of \$7.05 in 2023-24. This means the expected increase with a passed referendum would be approximately \$10.42 per month on a \$100,000 home and approximately \$20.83 per month on a \$200,000 home. The District levy, even with a passed referendum, would continue to be one of the lower mill rates in the area.

### February 2024

Facility (Bond) Referendums: 5 (4 Districts)

Operational Referendums: 5

### April 2024

Facility (Bond) Referendums: 30 (29 Districts)

Operational Referendums: 61

The important difference between Brodhead and many Wisconsin School Districts is that Brodhead is considered a low spending District, which means Brodhead will receive the benefit of significant State aid on any new debt used to fund facility priorities. This equates to the State funding an estimated 27.5% of the cost of Brodhead's proposed referendum.

Some taxpayers in the Brodhead School District may have seen an increase to the portion of their property taxes attributed to "Brodhead School" taxes over the last year. This is primarily due to two reasons: (1) The equalized (fair market value) of properties in the District rose last

## Brodhead Candidate Forum

In continuation of the Chamber of Commerce's Meet The Candidate Night, 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).

per student funding formula for lower spending Districts, of which Brodhead is one. The additional levy is primarily directed toward

## Brodhead City Council Candidate information

Each of the following candidates were sent a questionnaire with the following questions: position running for and whether incumbent or challenger; name and brief summary of background; and what in particular do you feel you bring to the position.

**Edward "Casey" Jones:** I am running for mayor as the incumbent. Our family moved to Brodhead when I was 12. I graduated from BHS in 1979. I moved to Arizona when I was 30. Lori and I moved back in 2021. We have owned and operated several successful businesses and some duds. We currently own a quilt shop, Brodhead Free Press, Brodhead Property Management, BC Cole Auctioneers, Woods View Duplexes and [www.ibid4stuff.com](http://www.ibid4stuff.com). I bring a long history of being self-employed. Being self-employed has taught me things such as leadership skills, positive attitude, ability to solve problems and a great knowledge of budgeting and negotiation with vendors. I have the ability to "trust" my department heads. This enables me not to micro-manage them.

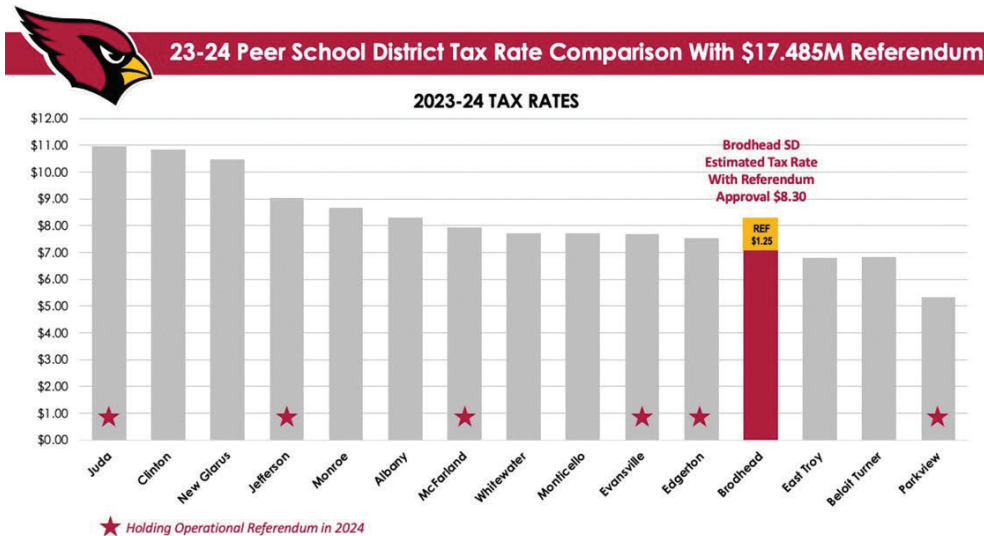
**Thomas Simpson:** I'm running for Mayor of the City of Brodhead as the challenger. I ran as a write-in candidate for mayor in the last mayoral election and lost by only 31 votes. This time my name will appear on the ballot and I am hoping to continue to serve the great people of Brodhead as your mayor for the next two years. I have been proud to call Brodhead my home for more than 50 years. I chose to live, work, and raise my five daughters here and now I am using this opportunity to give back to our community. I practiced veterinary medicine for 30 years and owned and operated my own veterinary clinic here in Brodhead for over 20 years. Since retiring from practice, I have served the people of Brodhead on the City Council for almost three years. After being appointed to the council in June of 2021 to fill a vacant council seat, I then ran for the alderman's seat in the April 2023 election and with your votes have been able to continue serving the residents of Brodhead. As your mayor, I will bring the same work ethic and devotion to the City of Brodhead as your mayor as I did while serving my veterinary clients who put their trust in me to care for their pets and livestock. While on council, I have been working with other council members to have city government issues be placed on the city council agenda so they can be discussed openly. I, with the other council members, brought back the community comment period as a part of the city council meetings so you the voters and taxpayers of Brodhead can have a voice in our city government. As your mayor, I will seize the opportunity to address the challenges that face Brodhead. We have an aging infrastructure; I will work with the council and the

citizens of Brodhead to develop a long-term plan for budgeting and financing these needed repairs and replacement projects. We will identify and create a list of projects that need to be prioritized and completed. Examples such as streets, sewer, wastewater treatment plant, parks and the pool are just the beginning. I realize it's already an ambitious list but if we don't start the discussions now it will cost us much more when they begin to fail. We currently do not have a plan to deal with any of these issues. Housing is another concern. I will work with council to provide incentives for the owners and developers of property in Brodhead as an encouragement to build responsible housing in as much as it is possible for us as city government to do. We all want economic growth in our community, so we need a strong infrastructure, which will attract businesses and families. As your mayor, these are a few of the issues I'm going to be most concerned with and will strive to make our city government accountable and transparent to everyone. I will do everything in my ability to maintain and improve the services and the infrastructure, we have come to need and depend on; while at the same time being mindful of all of our property owners with regards to property taxes. I will strive to do the things I've mentioned here while staying within our city budget.

**Paul Naramore:** I am running for alder-at-large as an incumbent. I'm 63 years old and work at Kuhn North America as a welder for 27 years. I have lived in Brodhead since 1979 and was born and raised in Hillside, Illinois. Experience, knowledge, and I want to serve the community. I've been an alder for about four years.

**Jill Baxter:** I'm running for re-election for City Council-Alder person at large. I'm a life long resident of Brodhead. I own a home here, raised by two children: Graham and Caitlin, here and am now retired. I retired four years ago after a career as an ICU RN and Nursing Director. After adjusting to retirement I'm now finding time to look for volunteer opportunities to better serve the community. I'm a member of the Brodhead Historical Society and work as a Chief Elections Inspector. I enjoy traveling, gardening and spending time with my family and friends. As an RN leader I acquired many skills that I've used in my alder position. Strong critical thinking and analytical skills enable me to understand difficult issues quickly. I was responsible for building and managing large operational budgets as well as strategizing to meet financial goals. I'm a fast and diligent worker who is able to understand complicated issues, develop plans of action and then follow through to a resolution. As a strong team player, I understand the ne-

(Continued to page 5)



Brodhead is taking a similar approach to many Wisconsin School Districts who need funding for facility and/or operational needs. Almost 24% of Wisconsin School Districts are going to referendum in either February or April of 2024, when there are a total of 101 referendums on the ballot.

year by an average of 11.1% - growth in equalized value was higher for some municipalities within the District than others. This is not unique to Brodhead, as property values have risen throughout Wisconsin; and (2) the school levy increased by \$782,173, which was a result of an update to the State of Wisconsin's

the District's operational expenses, including smaller facility maintenance projects.

We do have a Blog at the following address <https://brodhead-school-district.wordpress.com/> that goes into much more detail about each specific portion of this facility (bond) referendum. I encourage everyone to look at that information prior to the Tuesday, April 2 election date. With the Blog posts, newspaper articles, webpage, and social media posts, we want to make sure everyone understands the scope of this referendum.

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in observance of  
Good Friday.



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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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*Funeral and  
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



Christopher “Buddha” McLain

Christopher “Buddha” McLain, age 56, Brodhead, passed away unexpectedly on March 15, 2024.

Christopher was born on January 26, 1968 in Freeport, Illinois, the son of Gary McLain and Sherri Mullen. He married Michelle Martin on April 19, 1997 in Brodhead. They were married for 26 years and they were more than husband and wife, they were best friends and were never seen without each other.

Buddha worked for Advance Transformer for 10 years prior to working for 24 years at Grande’ Cheese Factory in the waste water treatment plant.

Buddha enjoyed gambling, fishing and listening to rock music. But most of all, he was the best friend to many including his family. Buddha enjoyed his Lake Chetek trips every year with his aunts and uncles and he never had a complaint about anything—he truly was the best laid back kinda guy.

Buddha is survived by his wife, Michelle; two children: Fischer (Chesnie) McLain and Karlee (Brendan) Olson; his parents: Gary McLain and Sherri (Richard) Mullen; two brothers: Todd (Amy) McLain and Scott (Tammy) McLain; two nephews: Landon McLain and Charlie Martin; one niece, Haylee McLain; his mother in law, Bonnie Martin; a brother in law, Aaron Martin and several other aunts, uncles, relatives and friends.

Thoughts from his children: Fischer: I’m hoping to be the dad and best friend you were to me. Just know I’ll always love you and will always have a special place in my heart.


Karlee: From the daughter that lost her best friend, I want to say that I love you very much and that I will always be your little girl. Forever and always.

Buddha was preceded in death by an uncle, Karl McLain and his father in law, Michael Martin.


In lieu of flowers, memorials can be directed to the family in his memory.

A memorial gathering will be held at the DL Newcomer Funeral Home in Brodhead on Saturday, March 23, from 2 to 5 p.m. Cremation rites will be accorded at a later date. Online condolences can be made at www.dlnewcomerfuneralhome.com.

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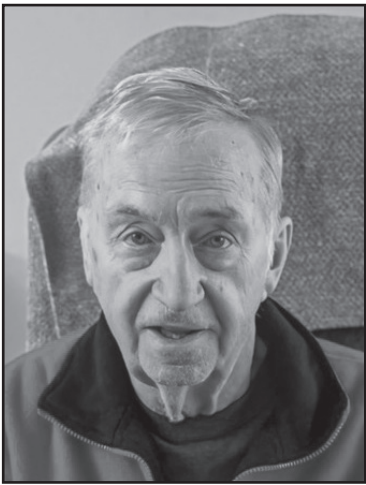
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Delton “Brad” Zimmerman

Delton “Brad” Zimmerman, age 80, of Juda, died Friday, March 15, 2024 at the New Glarus Home. Brad was born on March 23, 1943 in Monroe, the son of Kenneth and Carrie (Arnsmeier) Zimmerman. He graduated from Juda High School in 1961 and was united in marriage to Karen Lehr on October 30, 1965 at the Juda Zion United Methodist Church. Brad worked as a press operator for Moore Business Forms in Monroe for 38 years until retiring in 2008. Brad loved spending time with his family and watching his children and granddaugh-

ter's sporting events. He enjoyed quality time with his family, friends, and co-workers whether they were bowling, fishing, shooting pool, camping, or just visiting. Brad was also an avid Badgers, Packers, and Brewers fan.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Karen Zimmerman; son, Mark Zimmerman; daughter, Dawn Golackson, all of Juda; granddaughter, Taylor Golackson of Madison; two sisters: Teresa (Al) Larson of Juda, and Donna (Jeff) Blair of Warren, Illinois; two brothers: Denny Zimmerman of Twin Grove, and Don (Julie) Zimmerman of Juda; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; and a brother, Roger “Bud” (Nancy) Zimmerman.

A celebration of Brad's life will be held on Saturday, April 27, from 2 until 6 p.m., at Nett's Sports Bar, 1301 17th Street, Monroe. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested in Brad's name to the Green County Humane Society. The Newcomer Funeral Home, Monroe, is assisting the family. Condolences may be shared with the family at www.newcomerfuneralhome.net

The family would like to thank the New Glarus Home, St. Croix Hospice, Green County EMS, Juda First Response for their wonderful care and Dawn and Taylor for all the help while Brad was at home.

Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!

**St. Peter Lutheran Church**  
1708 W. 6th Avenue  
Brodhead

**Holy Week worship in person and through our livestream.**

**HOLY THURSDAY**  
Thursday, March 28th at 7 p.m.

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
Friday, March 29th at 7 p.m.

**EASTER DAY SERVICES**  
Sunday, March 31st  
Easter Sunday Breakfast  
8 a.m.  
Worship  
9 a.m.

Find us on Facebook or in person.

**CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
E201 23rd Street  
Brodhead  
608-897-2917

**MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE**  
Thursday, March 28th at 6 p.m.  
Join us for this simple service. We will be hosting a brief Maundy Thursday service. A simple supper will be enjoyed by candlelight in the Fellowship Hall immediately following service.  
*Everyone is welcome to attend.*

**EASTER DAY SERVICES**  
Sunday, March 31st  
Easter Son-Rise Service  
8 a.m.  
Son-Rise Breakfast  
Fellowship Hall  
Following Service at 8:30 a.m.  
Easter Sunday Service  
10 a.m.

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

Congregational UCC's Annual Spring Fish Boil

The Brodhead Congregational United Church of Christ will be having their Annual Spring Fish Boil on Saturday, April 20th from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

The UCC located at E201 23rd Street, Brodhead, will serve their always delicious menu which includes: boiled cod, potatoes, carrots, onions, coleslaw, rolls and butter, dessert and a variety of beverages. They will also offer take-out meals.

Ticket cost is \$18 for full meal. Buy on or before noon on Friday, April 19th and receive \$2 off cost. Tickets on sale now! Available from any church member or by stopping in the church office between 10 a.m. and noon, Monday-Friday.

Advertising Deadline:  
Friday, 5 p.m.





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.

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.

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.

Greenwood Cemetery notice

A reminder that it is time to prepare the cemetery for spring. 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 May 1st.

Juda Zion Easter “Sonrise”

The members of the Juda Zion Community Church Youth Group will be hosting their annual Easter “Sonrise” Breakfast on Sunday, March 31st, following the Easter “Sonrise” Service at the church in Juda. The morning service will begin at 8 a.m. followed by the breakfast at 9 a.m. The menu will include pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, applesauce and coffee cake along with milk, juice and coffee. A free will donation will be taken with the proceeds being used to benefit activities of the group. The Juda Zion Community Church is a member of the Congregational Methodist Church and is located at N2350 Church Street in Juda.

Brodhead  
Historical  
Society to  
meet

The Brodhead Historical Society will hold their first meeting of 2024 on Monday, March 25. Kalena Riemer, a Brodhead High School senior, will present her senior project, “Clothing and Music Through the Ages.” Kalena plans to highlight clothing and hats of men, women and children of various decades, beginning with a christening dress from 1822.

Kalena and some friends will also present music from her chosen time periods, either through song or instrumental performance.

The meeting, including a short business session, will begin at 7 p.m., but the doors will be open at 6:30 p.m. to allow extra time to enjoy the clothing and music exhibits. The Knight addition of the Depot Museum is the location of the meeting, and the entrance is on East Second Avenue. The public is welcome to attend. Please join them for this interesting program, and to support Kalena's senior project.

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.

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Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
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Mark Woodward and Rudy Kaderly

Juda Zion Community Church  
presents “The Voice”

The choir of the Juda Zion Community Church will present the dramatic musical “The Voice” at 1:30 p.m. on Palm Sunday, March 24, and on Good Friday, March 29, at 1:30 p.m. Both performances are at the Juda Zion Community Church, located at N2350 Church Street, Juda. Directed by Shelly Jordan, the beginning of the musical finds John the Baptist (played by Gene Dobbins), declaring that he is the voice crying in the wilderness “Prepare ye the way of the Lord”.

The play continues by tracing the stories of two of the most pivotal figures in the hours following Jesus’ death, Joseph of Arimathea (played by Mark Woodward), who provided the tomb, and Nicodemus (played by Rudy Kaderly), the man who helped carry Jesus’ body. Together they took Christ’s body from the cross, prepared it for burial, and placed it in the tomb. In this simple act they told the world that they too were followers of Christ.

Other members of the cast are Joyce Hoesly, Julie Davis, JoAnn Dobbins, Heidi Bolton, Peggy Jordan, Sara Jordan, Carrie Schwartz, Jean Busker, Judy Kaderly, Sharon Creuzer, Kim Schields, Kay Carter, JoAnn Eberle, Pat Daniels, Bob Severson, Steve Anderson, Jake Hoesly, Irv Case, Mark Mason, Joe Kaderly, Eric Woodward, and Blake Adkins. The tech crew consists of Brian Matzke (lights), Peggy Matzke ( publicity, set, costumes), Hazel Matzke (publicity), Bill Jahn and Kalvin Kaderly (sound and videography), Bethany Woodward (prompter), John Severson and Bob and Mary Severson (set crew), and Judy Kaderly (production secretary).

A time of fellowship and refreshments will follow the program in the church fellowship hall. The public is welcome to experience this powerful Easter message. There is no admission charge but a free-will offering will be accepted.

A LITTLE GOOD NEWS

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“When I was five years old, my mother always told me that happiness was the key to life. When I went to school, they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up, I wrote down ‘happy’. They told me I didn’t understand the assignment, and I told them they didn’t understand life.”  
~John Lennon

NEWS

Brodhead  
FREE PRESS

You've tried the rest...  
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## 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 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 police-man 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## SSM Health Monroe Hospital recognized for exceptional patient experience

SSM Health Monroe Hospital has been recognized again for exceptional patient experience. The hospital recently received the 2024 Outstanding Patient Experience Award from Healthgrades.

“This is fabulous news. We are so pleased to have received this award for the sixth consecutive year,” shared Jane Curran-Meuli, President of SSM Health Monroe Hospital and SSM Health Monroe Clinic Medical Group. “I have the privilege of seeing the incredible care our teams provide daily for the

communities we serve. It’s wonderful to see their work being recognized on a national level.”

To determine recipients of these awards, Healthgrades evaluates hospitals on their performance on 10 patient experience measures. This includes categories such as recommendation to family & friends, communication with staff and discharge information. This achievement puts SSM Health Monroe Hospital in the top 15% of eligible U.S. hospitals.

SSM Health Monroe Hospital is joined in receiving this award by several other SSM Health hospitals in Wisconsin, including St. Mary’s Hospital–Madison, St. Clare Hospital–Baraboo, St. Agnes Hospital–Fond du Lac, and Waupun Memorial Hospital.

## Free AARP tax preparation

Free AARP tax preparation at the Green County ADRC Center on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Call the ADRC at 608-328-9499 to make an appointment and pick up a preparation packet.

## 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!

## 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.

## 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.

## Music In Our Schools — Student Perspectives

By Jenny Flory, Brodhead Music Boosters Co-President

As parents and community members, attending concerts is a joy, especially when the musicians are local youth. Undeniable is the large number of student musicians, which leads us to wonder: 1) how does participation in music programs affect our students, and 2) does this last after graduation? Here’s what current students and BHS alumni say about the impact of school music programs.

Brodhead Alum: The Brodhead music program left me with a life long appreciation of music and a way to connect with the world. It influenced where I live, have traveled, and all the friends I’ve met along the way.

Current HS: The music program has greatly impacted me in many ways including teaching me patience, persistence, and the joy of creating something beautiful. I enjoy having a break in my school day where I play in the band and later sing in the choir. Being involved in band and choir has also made me grow as an individual by pushing me out of my comfort zone. Learning a new instrument and singing in front of people has made me confront my fears. I now love performing!

Current MS: This year I have taken as many opportunities in band as I could, and on the way I have gotten so much better at saxophone and being able to know what’s going on in the song. I learned that nothing comes without practice and I can’t just go out and expect to be good without practicing and understanding.

Brodhead Alum: The joy I found from being involved in music while I was at Brodhead influenced my decision to major in performing arts after high school. While in college, I continued to foster an appreciation and passion for music while making lifelong friends in the program. I’m so grateful for all the music instructors at Brodhead for providing countless opportunities to try, fail, try again, and eventually succeed in a safe space. I’m so glad music is still a part of my life today!

Current MS: I have learned that if I make a mistake I have to keep going, I can’t stop in the middle of the song. I feel like this can be a good life lesson to show that mistakes happen and we just have to keep going.

Current HS: The music program at Brodhead has impacted my life by giving me a safe place to be myself. Band and Choir are the classes I look forward to the most everyday. Having the opportunity to make music with amazing people who share the same love of music is such a beautiful thing. This program would be nothing if it wasn’t for Mr. and Mrs. Riesterer and Ms. Jordan. They are so amazing and encouraging. I really don’t know what we would do without them. So a huge thank you goes out to them.

Brodhead Alum: Growing up, I felt a pull towards music at a very young age. Through Brodhead School District’s music program, I was able to immerse myself in the music community and was given opportunities to do what I love. With the help of instructors and peers, I learned many life lessons that I still follow today—many of which have helped me be successful in my career. I am proud to say I was involved with the music program in Brodhead and am a firm believer that I would not be where I am today without it.

Current MS: It helps me with my courage and Ms. Jordan always pushes us to be our best.

Current HS: I have been in the Brodhead Music Program for years now and it has been a great part of my memories of the Brodhead School District. I love how the instructors encourage participation; not only in music-based activities but all other extracurriculars as well. Getting involved has brightened my experiences in high school.

Brodhead Alum: The Brodhead Music Department has had a lasting impact on my life. Throughout college, I have participated in our university choir and the school’s percussion ensemble, where I have enjoyed every second. I’m very thankful for the BHS music instructors encouraging me to continue making music after graduating high school.

Current HS: I have enjoyed every opportunity that has been presented to me by the music department. I got to participate in the musical and jazz band while doing other extracurricular activities, which goes to show how flexible and accommodating the music department is and why I appreciate it so much. It really brightened my high school experience.

Brodhead Alum: Music in schools goes far beyond the music itself. We learned important life lessons about teamwork, friendship, self-confidence, and so much more. Students from different backgrounds and social groups came together for a common goal, and that is something that we carry with us in our adult lives.

Current MS: Band has helped me to step out of my comfort zone like with solo and ensemble, and to socialize with people in my grade I might not talk to regularly.

Brodhead Alum: Music is good for the soul and the mind. Listening to or playing music is known to reduce anxiety, lower blood pressure, and even improve your mood and memory. As someone with a lot of anxiety, I know how important music can be in calming your mind and heart rate. Music also allows you to express yourself; it helps you experience different emotions. Music connects and heals; it moves us. That is why for thousands of years music has been an integral part of various ceremonies and forms of communication. Music provides a positive and creative outlet for so many students. Growing up, I did not feel connected with many of my peers, this all changed when I joined band. Band gave me a sense of purpose and a place where I felt I belonged in school.

Thanks to the many alumni and current students who responded—too many to put into an article. All comments will be shared with our music instructors.



# The BODEANS announced as JPAC’s 2024 Gala Artist

The Janesville Performing Arts Center (JPAC) will be hosting the BODEANS as part of its 2024 Gala Concert/Event, held at the Performing Arts Center on Saturday, May 4th. The PAC is thrilled to be bringing in this popular band, who just so happened to form in Waukesha, Wisconsin. Love and Hope and Sex and Dreams, the band’s critically acclaimed debut album, was released in 1986. In 1993, their album Go Slow Down was released. The first song from the album, “Closer to Free” was a hit and selected as the theme song to the television series Party of Five. This song peaked at number 16 on the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 in 1996. Additional hits include Good Things, Fadeaway, and Still the Night. They have nearly 120,000 monthly followers on Spotify and still listened to widely today.

Once a year JPAC strives to bring in a larger artist for its annual fundraising event. Previous artists have included Tony Bennett, Gin Blossoms, Lonestar, Leann Rimes, Jane Lynch, and Colin Mochrie. The BODEANS performing at this year’s event continues that tradition of hosting an annual event featuring a recognizable artist. “We are excited to be bringing in this talented group, with roots from Wisconsin for JPAC’s annual gala this year. JPAC has been available to this community for 20 years and this event always proves to be a great way to support the PAC in a fun, entertaining, and rememberable way,” says JPAC Executive Director, Nathan Burkart.

The concert will take place on Saturday, May 4th, at 8 p.m. Tickets range between \$50-\$70 for the general public. Before concert fundraiser tickets are also available by calling the Performing Arts Center. Fundraiser tickets include preshow cocktails, dinner, and desert.

JPAC’s Presenting Sponsor on the event is Quint and Rishy Studer. “Quint and Rishy and incredibly kind and supportive members of JPAC and the Rock County Community. I cannot thank them enough for continuing to help JPAC create such great memories and experiences for this area” said Burkart.

Tickets for the BODEANS went on sale Tuesday, January 16th. Tickets can be purchased by calling the box office during box office hours of by purchasing ticketing on JPAC’s website.

If you have any questions, please call the JPAC box office at 608-758-0297 or email JPAC Executive Director, Nathan Burkart, at nathan@janesvillepac.org. Tickets can be purchased at JPAC’s website- www.janesvillepac.org or by calling the box office directly.

Helping make Brodhead a place to call home.

# Weekend Food Programs for students—announcing new partner, Caring for Kids, Inc.

The seven weekend food programs for students; Albany Comets Care Pack, Black Hawk Warrior Pack Program, Brodhead Backpack Food Program, Juda Panther Pack Program, Monticello Pony Pack Program, New Glarus Food For Kids Program, and lastly, Pecatonica’s Pec Pantry have a new partner in fighting food insecurity within our students. Caring For Kids Inc., (CFK), a 501(c)(3) based in New Glarus, is now partnering with Second Harvest Food Bank and each of the seven programs to end food insecurity within area students. These seven weekend food programs provide food to participating students in a confidential manner without questions. Each program operates through donations and grant funds; there are no costs to the taxpayers, school, student, or their family.

CFK, Inc., a non-profit based in New Glarus, provides essential services such as food, clothing, and parenting classes to at-risk students. CFK will manage the finances of each school’s weekend food program at no cost, and each school will have its own account within the organization.

Volunteers with the Weekend Food Programs for Students will continue their fundraising efforts for each of the seven schools. CFK warmly welcomes contributions to any of these school programs. If you wish to earmark your donation for a specific program, please make your check payable to Caring For Kids, and send it to PO Box 969, New Glarus, WI 53574, and indicate the school’s name and/or program on the memo line. Alternatively, direct donations can be made to the school of your choice. As has been the case since the inception of these programs, 100% of your donation is used to purchase food.

In 2023, the Weekend Food Programs distributed 11,002 weekend food packs and 80,712 classroom snacks—a remarkable achievement that sets a record for our seven programs. This represents a 49% increase compared to the previous year.

Despite this progress, food insecurity continues to be a pressing concern within these school districts. Please consider donating to your school’s program. Every contribution matters, as no student should ever go hungry.



# March Meeting of the Monticello Area Historical Society

The Monticello Area Historical Society (MAHS) will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 21 (note: a week earlier due to Maundy Thursday) in the Zwingli UCC Lounge, 416 E. Lake Avenue, Monticello.

Following a short business meeting, Doug Buehl will talk about the Monticello Woolen Mill. This presentation will trace the story of this small but influential area factory and detail the rejuvenation of a historic Monticello site.

The Monticello Woolen Mill began operation in 1866 as a water-powered mill on the Little Sugar River and created its iconic Monticello blankets, cloths, and yarns for nearly one hundred years. The mill tragically burned in 1950, leaving ruins and a local landmark, the 1868 limestone warehouse building.

This is a free presentation and the public is welcome.

Can’t make it during office hours?

We have a night drop for your convenience!!

Please place items in an envelope!

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# Candidates

(Continued from page 1)

cessity of collaboration, clear communications and honest intentions. I’m a strong and positive advocate and I believe I have the experience/skill to continue to bring concerns and a voice to the city council. As an incumbent candidate, I bring two years of experience as a council member. I’m currently chairperson of the Finance Committee, council representative for the BID Committee, Library Board member and Council President. I also bring a strong working knowledge of local government procedures and our city ordinances. This experience, along with my previous work experiences, strengthens my effectiveness, efficiency and impactfulness as a city council member. I believe in moving issues forward with a positive and collaborative approach. I’ve made service to others my life’s work and would like to continue to serve Brodhead. Please make time to vote and be apart of the future of Brodhead.

**Benjamin Gritzmaker:** As an incumbent city council member I am seeking reelection. It has been my desire to serve the city of Brodhead in a capacity that allows me to contribute back to my community and gain a better perspective of the needs of the individual citizens as well as the city as a whole. I have learned a great deal in the two years I have served on the council and it is my desire to continue learning, which will enable me to increase by effectiveness in making positive changes for Brodhead. I cam a current city council member and lifelong citizen of Brodhead. My devotion to Brodhead is rooted in my elementary and secondary education within Brodhead schools and support from area residents and businesses providing opportunities for me to become employed and purchase my home, while I worked to build a life for myself in my hometown. I have been employed with a local manufacturing company for 14 years. Leading up to 2022 my interest in becoming knowledge about the issues Brodhead faces and how those issues are addressed grew to the point I wanted to become involved rather than just observe others leading our city. I come from a perspective of a common citizen who cares greatly about the well being of the financial security, business growth, safety, infrastructure and encouragement of getting others involved in decision making that provides a sense of belonging and pride in our city. This led me to run for city council two years ago. I have learned a great deal and it’s my hope that others will identify with me and also seek to become more involved. The knowledge and understanding I have gained during my time on city council has been immeasurable to me personally and allowed me to work towards my goal of improving the quality of life for all who call Brodhead home. Together we can create a place to work, play and raise our families. I would appreciate your vote on April 2.

**J. Michael Lowery:** Challenger for the Alderman-at-Large on the City of Brodhead City Council. Growing up on a cattle ranch in Oklahoma, I learned the value of hard work and responsibility at an early age. I studied Restaurant Management at Oklahoma State

University where I developed skills in administration and honed my leadership skills by serving in the US Army. Throughout my life leading businesses, church groups, and non-profit organizations, I have made many contributions to the communities where I reside. One of the gifts to the community that I am especially proud of is “Family Fest” which is Brodhead’s event modeled on the family-centered community picnic with music, fun and capped off with fireworks and creates memories for our children that will keep them attached to Brodhead for a lifetime. In the City of Brodhead, we are faced with Rising Taxes for our citizens and businesses, a Housing Shortage, Declining Enrollment in our Schools, Lack of Unity in our Local Government, and a community that needs Economic Growth. My Integrity, Passion, and Hard Work is needed on Brodhead’s City Council. I am running for Brodhead City Council Alderman because our citizens deserve a city government working for them to address these challenges and I am a citizen with the skills and life experiences to meet the need. I appreciate your vote as we work together to make a difference in Brodhead.

# ACADEMICS

## LOCAL STUDENTS SELECTED TO UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA TWIN CITIES DEAN’S LIST

Students honored for academic success during the 2023 fall semester

The following students have been named to the 2023 fall semester Dean’s List at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, the university announced today.

To qualify for the Dean’s List, a student must complete 12 or more letter-graded credits while attaining a 3.66 grade point average.

Among those listed was Kristina Meiners, Junior, College of Science and Engineering, of Davis, Illinois.

## UW-MADISON ANNOUNCES 2023 WINTER GRADUATES

A total of 1,966 students received degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison on Sunday, December 17, 2023, including local students.

Just more than 1,300 of them took part in the ceremony at the Kohl Center. UW issued 1,459 bachelor’s degrees, 387 master’s degrees, and 120 doctoral degrees.

Local students that received degrees include Joseph Blumer, School of Medicine and Public Health, Doctor of Philosophy, Endocrinology-Reproductive Physiology, of Albany; Nathan Dougherty, School of Education, Master of Science-Curriculum and Instruction, Curriculum and Instruction and Evan Willing, College of Engineering, Master of Science-Materials Science and Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering, both of Brodhead; and Ariel Zellmer, School of Medicine and Public Health, Master of Science-Applied Biotechnology, Applied Biotechnology, of Orfordville.





Dalana Trumpy



Junior Dalana Trumpy, #10, driving the lane toward the end of the second half, along with senior Alana Durtschi. (Free Press photos by Duke Goetz/Goetz Imagery)

## Albany/Monticello girls' basketball team finish season as D5 State Champions

By Duke Goetz

Albany and Monticello high schools united their respective talents, families, and communities, for the 2023-2024 girls' basketball season, lead by head coach Derik Doe-scher. They became Wisconsin D5 state champions Saturday, March 9, 2024. Their final three games of the seasons were come-from-behind nail biters where the culmination game went to overtime.

Patience, persistence, persever-ance, and pride determined their destiny to become champions.

The championship game was against Lena.

Albany Monticello scored the game's first two points at ten seconds into the first half. They built their lead to eight at the 13:33 mark, increasing to nine, a 15-6 advan-tage, with 10:32 remaining. Lena cut AM's lead to three several times, finally tying the game at 19, then again at 21. The final 3:12 of this half was scoreless.

The second half began with Lena taking a two-point advantage. Their lead extended to seven, 33 - 26, with 13:40 remaining. At the 8:06 mark AM had the advantage by two. They later fell off by five points multiple times, with the last being with 35 seconds remaining. Delana Trumpy, junior, got her team within two with a second chance layup, thus leaving AM three points down. With five seconds left, junior Abby Hollis hit a long range three to even the score. AM's defense kept Lena from scoring, sending this game to overtime with the score at 50.

In overtime, Lena grabbed the lead, AM tied the game at 52, Lena recapture the lead, 54-52, with 2:03



The Brodhead Optomist Club presented \$500 to the Brodhead High School Show Choir. Pictured, left to right, are Optomist Nancy Sutherland, Show Choir director Niteal Pinnow and Optomist Marcia O'Rourke.

remaining. With one minute, three seconds left in overtime. Hollis, once again, nailed another "three," from the same locale as her game tying score, for the go-ahead score, 55-54. Alana Durtschi, in her final game for this newly created co-op-erative team, sealed the victory with two free throws, placing her team up three with 14 seconds remaining. AM's defensive play kept Lena from the opportunity to tie.

Tenacity wins games.

For many images of their last three games, including game win-ning shots, visit facebook.com/goetzimagery

## BHS Student Council thanks businesses and community

Submitted by Cristi Gretebeck, BHS Student Council co-advisor

The Brodhead High School Student Council would like to thank the fol-lowing businesses for their sponsorship of our Wish Week for Robert and donation to the Make-A-Wish Foundation:

Arn's Auto Service, Bank of Brodhead, Cove's Electric, Jared Arn—LPL Financial, Jeremy Pinnow and Associates, Inc., KC Lawn Care, Pinnow Hometown Pharmacy, Speich Oil, Inc., Sugar River Bank and Woodford State Bank.

With the generous support and donations of our community through our Bake Sale, 50/50 Raffle, and T-Shirt sales, we were able to raise over \$3,200, which goes directly to Robert's Wish.

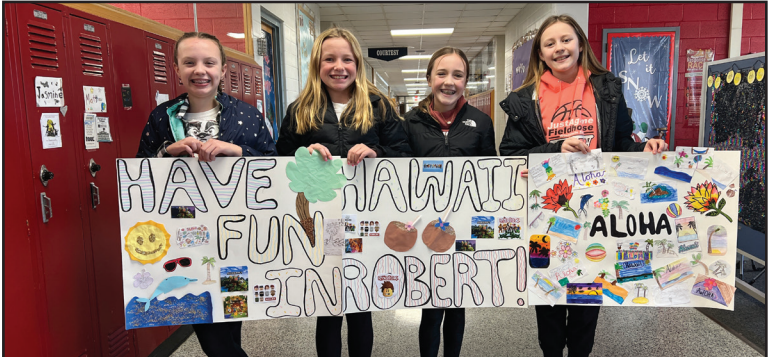
Thank you to BHS Student Council Members who donated baked goods and pies and who volunteered to work the fundraising events.

Thank you to community members and parents who gave generously online and at our events.

Thank you to Coach Kammerer and Coach Meier and the Brodhead Basketball Teams for supporting this event and purchasing Robert's Wish t-shirts as warm ups for their games.

Thank you to our Wish Committee Members and StuCo volunteers: Tes-sa Kloepping, Maddie Hawkins, Brielle Engen, Emberly Ast, Emily Reyes, Addie Yates, Jerrica Schwartz, Onni Williams, Leah Rear, Brynn Riesterer, Jordan Menehan, Paityn Kail, Lily Scheidegger, Abbey Vickers, Kylee Wahler, Brody Kiser, Isabela Valentin, Lillian Sievers, Raya Santiago.

Thank you to the Brodhead Middle School TOOL Team who donated a portion of their school dance proceeds to Robert's wish. TOOL members also made a "sticker" to include on posters for Robert. A crew of sixth-grade TOOL members put the posters together to give to Robert.



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## Parkview/Albany Wrestling End of Season Updates and Awards

**By Coach Joel Steinmann**  
“Just one more” My favorite saying! But this one will be the final one after 21 years at Parkview/Albany and 26 years of coaching. It’s time to step back and slow down a little bit. There is a lot of talent coming up and it will be fun to watch them from the stands.

The 2023-2024 Parkview/Albany wrestling awards night was held on Wednesday, March 14, 2024. Thank you to the coaching staff Byron Brown, Gavon Brown, Heather Clarke, Al Stark, and Wyatt Egan along with our junior high coach Brett Zimmerman and our youth coach Shawn Constantini. I want to thank Connor Nolen and Ian Suer for taking time to come up and work with the wrestlers. Thank you to John Rice for being there at the tournaments to help keep the kids in order and with keeping score! The success we had again this year is because of the hard work these coaches have done. Bottom to top, top to bottom is just phenomenal and thank you so much for that.

Also, without working in the school I rely on the ladies in the office to help me with any issues that come up throughout the season—Brandi Koehler and Mary Crane. Thank you, ladies! Also, thank you for the support from Mr. Allen and Mr. Abrahamson and Richi and the custodial and maintenance staff. A big shout out to Marcia Schwengels for helping with the coolers. That was a big help for sure! Thank you to Sarah Egan for helping me each week with writing the articles to send in to the papers, Heather Clarke for all the great photos, and

Leah Haugen for helping me with the awards again this year!  
To the Albany School District: especially Derik Doescher, Stuart Ritzert and Amy Hollis, your great support for the team has been awesome. You all have been willing to help when asked, thank you all so much for that. Also, Congratulations to Derik and his ladies in winning the state tournament!!

Thank you to Maggie Wohlfert and the Parkview Boosters for always being there to support the team. We would not be as successful as we are without you all!

Thank you to all the coaches’ wives, girlfriends, and husband for allowing us to work with the kids. I know a lot of time is given and the support is well appreciated. I want to make a special thank you to my family: Sidney, Nik, Koel Laken, Noah, and Joie for helping out at home while I was away! But especially to my wife Val, I know it wasn’t easy but you always knew my love for the sport but more for the love of the kids. You never complained and I love you for that. Thank you so much for letting me do this!

As we all know girls wrestling has just about doubled in the state of Wisconsin from last year and we were a part of that, we started with 4 girls and had three stick out the season and I hope it will keep growing. Kate Brown would have been very proud of these young ladies for sure! We have been blessed this year to have Heather step up to the challenge and work with the ladies. It will be fun to watch them grow.

**Team accomplishments:**  
Team Duals: 17-7 and 6-0 in

conference duals and back-to-back trailways south champions.  
Boys’ tournaments: Oakfield second place, Mt Horeb fifth, Polo seventh, Monroe ninth, Laconia fourth, Conference fourth and Regionals fifth.

Girls’ tournaments: Wisconsin Dell no team score, Mt Horeb no team score, Kickapoo 14th, Wisconsin challenge 68th, Lad Huskies ninth and conference no team score.

Letter awards: Balin Lacy, Peter Roth, Ayda Klein, Jagger Wilke, Autumn Hill, Trevor Haugen, Slater Valley, Sam Vogt, Wes Egan, Sydney Coyne, Danny Finley, Jayden Anderson, Sam Schwengels, Nick Stokstad  
**Team voting awards and academic awards**

All team Academics: Slater Valley, Danny Finley, Balin Lacy, Peter Roth, Jagger Wilke, Sam Schwengels, Sam Vogt and Sydney Coyne

All State Academics: Slater Valley, Peter Roth, Sam Schwengels and Sydney Coyne

All American Award: Sam Schwengels  
Alumni Pride: Trevor Haugen, Ayda Klein, Balin Lacy, Jayden Anderson, Sydney Coyne, Nick Stokstad

End of the year rankings: Danny Finley and Sam Schwengels seventh, Wes Egan and Sydney Coyne sixth

100 wins: Sam Schwengels 125 and Wes Egan 131

BDN Honorable mention: Peter Roth (138-150)

BDN First Team: Slater Valley 113, Danny Finley 126, Sam Schwengels, 190, Wes Egan 215 and Sydney

Coyne 235 Girls  
BDN All Area Male Wrestler: Sam Schwengels  
All Conference First team: Danny Finley 126, Sam Schwengels 190, Wes Egan 215 and Sydney Coyne 235  
All Conference second team: Autumn Hill 107 and Slater Valley 113.  
Trailways Conference Male wrestler of the year in the south: Sam Schwengels

JV State qualifier: Trevor Haugen (2x) and Peter Roth  
Sectional qualifier: Slater Valley (2x), Danny Finley (2x), Samuel Schwengels (3x), Wesley Egan (3x)  
State qualifier: Danny Finley, Samuel Schwengels (2x) sixth place, Wesley Egan (2x) fifth place and Sydney Coyne

Inaugural Girls team: Autumn Hill, Ayda Klein and Sydney Coyne, Coaches Heather Clarke & AL Stark  
Fastest Pin: Sam Schwengels :10 (2x)

Most Pins: Wes Egan 32 Junior record and overall record.

Four-year letter award: Jayden Anderson and Sam Schwengels

Hein’s Most Improved: Sam Vogt  
Underclassmen: Peter Roth  
McNair Most Dedicated: Danny Finley

Captains: Jayden Anderson, Danny Finley and Sam Schwengels  
Most Valuable Wrestler: Sam Schwengels

It’s been an honor to coach at Parkview/Albany! Bless you all.



## Parkview Albany Youth Wrestling Club sending 19 youth wrestlers to state

The Parkview Albany Youth Wrestling Club will send 19 youth wrestlers on to the WWF Kids Folkstyle State Championships in Madison, next weekend. Nineteen out of 29 youth wrestlers made the Regional Podium this past weekend in Evansville. Advancing on to State will be Rylee Huffman 60#, Holly Wollin 74#, Gatlin Morris-Bird 48#, Trace Haugen 54#, Weston Graham 63#, Jackson Allen 69#, Kyron Smith 85#, Casen Cavitt 105#, Deacon Spooner 120#, Tatem Constantini 72#, Jackson Butzler 90#, Clay Paffel 95#, Emerson Schmidt 120#, Westin Huffman 70#, Nolen Rebman 125#, Rylan Aasen 150#, Tavin Bomkamp 145#, Elijah Gunn 160#, and Jimmy Merritt 235+.

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### Brdhead Park and Rec Volleyball Champions—I’d Smack That

Teams members, left to right: Danny Lewis, Sarah Lewis, Courtney Mielke, Maddie Roth and Austin Pax. Not pictured: Joe Stout.



## Brodhead High School Student of the Month—February

Front row, left to right: Kalena Riemer, Abigail Vickers, Taiya Hawkins and Lillian Sievers; back row: Lane Visger, Bryce Turner, Brady Flannery, Brady Zimmerman, Joey Brown, Angel Nieto-Vigna and Gavin Pinnow.



### Correction

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



## Albertson Memorial Library to host Badger Talk

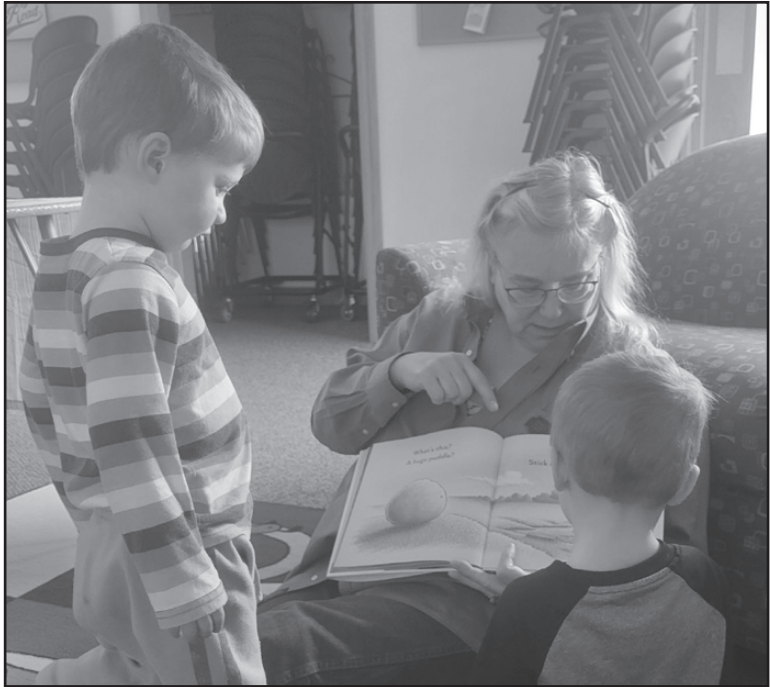
The Albertson Memorial Library will be hosting a very special Badger Talk, ‘Alzheimer’s Disease, Dementia, What is the Difference?’ on Thursday, March 21st at 6:30 p.m. Presenting will be Dementia Diagnostic Clinic Manager, Jody Krainer. Jody is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker that practiced at a large 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!



By Laura Roth,  
Children’s Librarian

This week we read about Ricky the Rock who couldn’t Roll, and Stick and Stone. We built towers from rocks and adopted a pet stick and a pet stone. Fun!



## Plan to create safer, people-friendly spaces in downtown Albany wins AARP’s Small Dollar, Big Impact grant

A proposal submitted by the Green County Development Corp. (GCDC) to beautify and create safer people-friendly spaces in downtown Albany has been selected to receive this month’s AARP Wisconsin “Small Dollar, Big Impact” grant.

AARP Wisconsin is awarding \$1,000 grants each month throughout 2024 to projects across the state that are designed to make communities better places for everyone to live, work and play as they age. Judges selected this project after reviewing dozens of proposals submitted from all over the state.

Olivia Otte, Executive Director of GCDC, said the goal of the project—called the “Advance Albany Initiative”—is to ‘create a spark that allows us to build excitement and growth in the community.’

The grant will be used to buy reflective crosswalk signs, high-visibility crosswalk paint, and solar-powered LED crosswalk lights. The funds will also enable the group to install new flowerpots with native plants in crosswalk islands and put small trees in sidewalk planters. Brochures and flyers about pedestrian safety will also be created and made available in the downtown library.

“By doing this, we will help to enhance the identity of the community and create a space that people want to go to,” Otte said. “This simple addition will serve as a catalyst for community engagement and social cohesion.”

The GCDC was created to serve small communities like Albany. This project, Otte explained, holds a distinctive character as it unfolds within a community characterized by its rural setting and aging population. The village, with a population of approximately 1,200 residents, exudes a sense of tight-knit community spirit.

One year ago, GCDC collaborated with community leaders to conduct first-impression tours of Albany. Key initiatives were identified, and a primary focus emerged: to enhance the downtown area by creating a more welcoming and aesthetically pleasing environment. Because of this community involvement, GCDC has collaborated with the Albany Chamber of Commerce to pursue grants and local donations to turn this vision into reality.

The group used the AARP Walk Audit Toolkit and the AARP Creating Community Gardens resource to help in their planning. “These invaluable tools played a crucial role in helping us refine our focus and identify the top priorities within our community improvement project. By leveraging these toolkits, we gained a clear understanding of the specific areas that required immediate attention and improvements,” Otte said.

Furthermore, she said, “both toolkits facilitated the development of a sustainability plan for our project. Collaborating with community groups and organizations not only diversified our resources but also fostered a sense of shared responsibility and collective ownership for the project’s ongoing success.”

Otte said the AARP grant money will help contribute to the creation of excitement and energy throughout the village.

“We deeply appreciate the AARP grant that GCDC has received, which will contribute significantly to enhancing Albany’s downtown area through beautification and safety initiatives,” she said. “This support not only aligns with Albany’s goals but also generates positive momentum, benefiting both local residents and visitors alike.”

Darrin Wasniewski, Associate State Director of Community Outreach for AARP Wisconsin, said, “We are pleased to see how Green County Development Corp. and the Village of Albany utilized AARP’s Walk Audit Toolkit and Creating Community Gardens in planning this pedestrian safety improvement.

“Older adults are disproportionately affected in traffic crashes involving pedestrians leading to serious injuries or death. We applaud all those involved for focusing on the safety of people walking as they work to create a Livable Community for all ages and all abilities,” Wasniewski said.

AARP Wisconsin’s launched its “Small Dollar, Big Impact” grant program in 2020 and is now in its fifth year of helping proposed projects move forward in rural and urban parts of the state. For more information, visit [www.aarp.org/WIsdbi](http://www.aarp.org/WIsdbi).

## Donation for Professional Development

Submitted by Corrine Hendrickson

The Green County Child Care Network (GCCCCN) would like to thank the Only in Wisconsin Giving Foundation for the generous grant to increase the quality and accessibility of childcare in the county through professional development. GCCCCN will use the grants to provide free monthly training for members, along with annual CPR certification. This funding allows several members to take the required courses to become mentors/trainers/consultants of childcare professionals thereby increasing opportunities for quality training within our county utilizing our current professionals.

Furthermore, more expensive professional development courses will be offered for free, allowing educators to better meet the social emotional and foundational educational needs of the children through the following courses: The Pyramid model increases the teacher’s ability to meet the children’s needs they care for and educate reducing teacher burnout, increasing inclusion of all children, lowers expulsion rates, and better prepares all children with the social emotional skills and self-awareness necessary to fulfill their potential and lead happier and healthier lives. This training increases partnerships with parents as they navigate meeting their child’s needs and have conversations about the potential need for evaluation by birth-three

## The Bank of New Glarus Welcomes Johnson to Board of Directors



The Bank of New Glarus is pleased to announce the appointment of Shelly Johnson, health plan quality administrator at Common Ground Healthcare Cooperative, to its board of directors. As a health insurance executive with more than 30 years of experience in the industry, Johnson has provided her expertise in health plan and healthcare operations, payer/provider contracting, and quality improvement. She holds an MBA from Edgewood College and is a longtime resident of New Glarus.

Johnson is board president for New Glarus Cares Community Foundation, Inc., a formal nonprofit organization that was originally formed to preserve greenspace adjacent to Candy Cane Park in New Glarus.

“We are excited to welcome Shelly as both an experienced business executive to our board of directors and an accredited businesswoman. We’re committed to promoting diversity and inclusion here and we believe Shelly will bring a distinctive perspective to our board—I’m confident she’ll be a valuable contribution,” said The Bank of New Glarus President Ron Schaaf.

The Bank of New Glarus is headquartered in New Glarus, Wisconsin and has branch offices located in New Glarus, Belleville, Monroe, Juda and Brodhead, with a loan production office located in Madison. As the largest deposit bank in Green County, it offers a full range of financial products and services to its customers including personal banking, business banking and wealth management. Member FDIC and Equal Housing Lender.

or the school district (three and up) of children suspected of having a disability/special need getting the child the supports necessary for their development. The Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards course to ensure that the learning environments are created to meet all the following developmental needs: health and physical, social emotional, language and communication, and cognition and general knowledge through play! These two courses also enable programs to earn higher star ratings in the states Youngstar quality indicator rating system.



## Saturday Mornings at the Durand Library Native Plants!

Submitted by Barbara Flores, President Friends of the Durand Library

Native plants—we are hearing a lot about them in recent years. Why should we plant them in our yards and who will benefit? Master Gardener Julie Thomas will answer these questions and more during her presentation at the library Saturday, March 23 at 10 a.m. But here is the quick answer: we should plant more native plants because the butterflies and birds we cherish will benefit.

Julie is a Master Gardener volunteer through the University of Illinois Extension. She has been a home gardener for more than 20 years with specific interests in growing her own vegetables and fruits and in incorporating native plants into landscaping. She and her photographer husband live on six acres in rural Winnebago County where they started a small prairie and two large vegetable gardens.

Native plants are those, which were growing here before the Europeans arrived and thus they have evolved over the millennia with the insects and birds, which feed on them. These plants are the all important host plants for various species of caterpillars, the larval form of butterflies and moths.

We may see the Monarch butterfly gathering nectar from various flowers but the female will lay eggs only on milkweed plants because that is the only plant the Monarch caterpillar will eat. Other butterflies favor other native plants and many, like the Monarch, are very specific in their choice.

The caterpillars feed on the plants and in turn are a protein rich food source, which parent birds must gather for their little nestlings. Even the hummingbird, which takes in sugar water at the feeder, needs caterpillars to feed its young.

Studies have shown that native plants are visited much more frequently by insects than cultivated species of plants. Native trees also play an important role, as many are host plants for various caterpillars including oak, cherry, hackberry and others.

It is estimated that in the United States between 30 to 40 million acres are devoted to lawns. Unfortunately, the average lawn is a bit like a cemetery, tidy looking but without life. The short turf provides no shelter or food for insects. In addition, many homeowners fertilize their lawn, use weed killer and water their lawn to keep it looking “nice.” These practices have environmental considerations.

Please come to the library March 23 to learn more about the importance and the reward of using native plants in your yard. They are beautiful and beneficial and there are native plants just the right size for any yard.

About the Durand Library

Library hours are 9 a.m. until noon every Saturday and are maintained by the Friends of the Durand Library. All residents of the school district have check out privileges as well as access to Interlibrary Loans. Entry is at the east or playground end of the school building. Follow the signs along the wide paved walkway. For more information about this program or library services, please email [villagelibrary@cusd322.org](mailto:villagelibrary@cusd322.org) or call 815-289-8602. Visit our Facebook page for current information, [Facebook.com/durandvillage-library](https://www.facebook.com/durandvillage-library).

## Green County Genealogical Society to meet

The Green County Genealogical Society will hold its Saturday, April 6 meeting at 10 a.m. at the Union Presbyterian Church located at 2707 5th Street, Monroe. Please note the change in location.

Craig Pfannkuche will present “Analyzing 19th Century Photographs for Family History Data.” Some of us are lucky enough to possess old photographs of our ancestors. Many times, these photographs do not have any identifying names on them. This presentation will focus on how a family history researcher might be able to identify such individuals. Additionally, suggestions will be made as to how “unnamed” photographs, even if they can not be identified, can be used to add interesting material to one’s history.

Craig Pfannkuche has been President of Memory Trail Research, Inc. since 1993, and is the Genealogical Archivist for the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Historical Society since 1984. He is on the Board of Directors of the McHenry County, Illinois Genealogical Society and the Chicago Genealogical Society. He has presented numerous workshops in history, historical and genealogical research and archaeological techniques at both the local and national level.

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 closed to the public for research. The center is undergoing renovations and will reopen in April.



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Pediatrics team members Tiarra Jackson, MA and Marissa Eaton, RN holding a variety of Reach Out and Read books.

## SSM Health Monroe provides 5,256 books to local youth in 2023

To foster a lifelong love of reading, SSM Health Monroe Clinic Medical Group is providing free books to pediatric patients.

The Reach Out and Read Program encourages families to celebrate literacy as part of healthy childhood development. Through this initiative, children receive a free book at each of their well-child visits, from age six months through five years. Books vary depending on age and are selected based on stages of development.

In 2023, a total of 5,256 books were given out at SSM Health Monroe Clinic Medical Group.

This program is possible through sponsorship of the Monroe Clinic and Hospital Foundation, a member of SSM Health.

## GCDC Annual Dinner & Awards March 21st

Green County Development Corporation (GCDC) will hold its Annual Dinner and Awards night on Thursday, March 21 at Turner Hall in Monroe. Business leaders and community members are invited to attend the event, which will highlight 2023 achievements for GCDC, provide insights into the future of economic development in Wisconsin, and recognize local businesses and leaders in Green County.

“We are excited to bring our amazing businesses of Green County together again to celebrate some of our county’s most outstanding accomplishments, as well as the opportunity to network and strengthen our communities.” GCDC Board President Nikki Austin said.

The Keynote address will be led by leaders from Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC), sharing the role all of us have in realizing Wisconsin’s full economic potential. Leveraging our power and resources to ensure economic well-being and our rural prosperity for the future of our area. WEDC helps Wisconsin businesses and communities find success by helping to activate and accelerate economic opportunity in our state.

The program will also include announcements of recipients of three county awards.

- Outstanding Business of the Year—honoring an existing business that has demonstrated outstanding commitment to the county’s economic growth through innovation, job creation, new investment, and/or extraordinary long-time interest in supporting others in business.
- Entrepreneurial Spirit Award—recognizing an entrepreneur who leads the way for their business, demonstrating a growth mindset, a strong work ethic, a willingness to learn and find solutions to challenges, and a hunger for opportunity.
- Richard B. Schmied Leadership Award—commemorates Richard B. Schmied, remembered for the characteristics of leadership he exhibited. The winner of the award exemplifies the character of a true leader.

Nominations for the awards can be submitted until Monday, February 26th and can be found on GCDCS website at [www.greencountydevelopment.com/news-events/](http://www.greencountydevelopment.com/news-events/)

“2023 was an incredible year of growth and collaboration for GCDC. Sharing an evening of celebration with those that made it happen with us is a highlight of our year,” said Olivia Otte, Executive Director of GCDC. As part of the program a brief overview of the organizations goals for 2024 will be presented.

The event will begin with a social reception at 5 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m. and the program at 6:45 p.m. Tickets cost \$50; tables of eight are available at a discount and can be ordered by via the link on the website [www.greencountydevelopment.com/news-events/](http://www.greencountydevelopment.com/news-events/) by email at [gcdc@greencountydevelopment.com](mailto:gcdc@greencountydevelopment.com) or calling 608-328-9452.

GCDC is here to help new and existing businesses find the right resources to grow and prosper, making Green County a great place to live and work. The organization is building the economic future of Green County communities and businesses through public-private partnerships. For more information, visit GCDC online at [www.greencountydevelopment.com](http://www.greencountydevelopment.com), or contact the GCDC office at 608-328-9452 or email [gcdc@greencountydevelopment.com](mailto:gcdc@greencountydevelopment.com).

## Wild Ones Rock River Chapter to meet

The Wild Ones Rock River Chapter March 2024 educational program is Wildlife is Not Random with Peggy Anesi. The program will be held on Thursday, March 21, at 6:30 p.m. with a social time starting at 6 p.m., at the Cherry Valley Library, 755 East State Street, Cherry Valley, Illinois.

To view the program via Zoom, please register at <http://wildonesrvc.org/>

So you’ve made the decision to create a beautiful and environmentally-friendly native plant garden. Now your garden is full of wonderful pollinators such as monarch butterflies, solitary bees, and clear-wing moths that dart from flower to flower like hummingbirds. There are myriad species of interesting birds like warblers and woodpeckers and vireos. Success! But you also notice some larger, mammalian creatures like squirrels, raccoons, and skunks that have taken a shine to your plantings. In her presentation, Wildlife is Not Random, Peggy Anesi will discuss that whether you plant cultivars, natives, or garden vegetables, you may be welcoming in more creatures to your yard. A favorite, informative, and entertaining speaker, Peggy will join us via Zoom to help us understand and deal with our wild neighbors. She explains, “If we work on coexisting rather than just coping with the wildlife around us, our lives just might experience a small bit of natural wonder without leaving our yard.” Peggy is an educator for University of Illinois Extension specializing in environmental education, human/wildlife relationships, and water quality. She holds a B.S. in zoology with a specialization in wildlife management. Peggy is interested in large predators, coyotes, and feral swine in Illinois. She also holds an M.S. in education with a specialization in outdoor teacher education/curriculum and instruction. Peggy has been teaching environmental education for over 25 years, is passionate about helping children see their role in the environment, and helping people understand wildlife as it relates to their lives. This program is free and open to the public. Participants can attend in person at the Cherry Valley Public Library or attend via Zoom with prior registration found on our website at <http://wildonesrvc.org/>.

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Variety of Speakers Educate at the Annual Meeting of the Farmers of the Sugar River

Over 90 farmers, landowners and interested parties attended the annual meeting on Friday, February 9th of the Farmers of the Sugar River at the Albany Lions Club. There were a variety of speakers to educate the audience. Lisie Kitchel from the DNR shared the history and life of mussels in the Sugar River. In the late 1800s pearls were found and sold from the mussels (or clams) that were in the river. Thousands of people came to Brodhead and Albany searching the Sugar River hoping to find their fortune. Typically only one in 10,000 clams produce a high quality pearl. So one could understand how easily the resource was devastated by the chance to make a fortune in the Pearl Rush. Ms. Kitchel also showed pictures of mussels and how they can create elaborate decoys to lure in host species of fish to spit eggs at them to be trapped in their gills. Specific fish are needed to complete each mussel's life cycle. Mussels are very critical to filtering contaminants from water.

Chelsea Zegler from the UWEX Water Quality Program gave an update on the status of a statewide project of soil sampling to look for phosphorus stratification and if it is more prevalent in certain systems. The concern is that higher levels of phosphorus are in the top inches of the soil profile and are reduced deeper into the soil profile. It is natural and there isn't any evidence that it has impacted crop production.

An update of the Farmers of the Sugar River explained that \$25,927.01 in grant funds were spent in 2023. 65% of that money went directly to 21 watershed farmers that planted cover crops, no tilled or planted green into cover crops. The rest was used to do sampling and put on events. The group has secured a grant from Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) for \$26,142 to support incentive payments and activities in 2024.

The keynote speaker, Blake Vince, from Ontario, Canada did not disappoint with his quick wit and storytelling abilities. He has traveled to numerous countries and knows several languages under the Nuffield Scholarship. He was able to meet some of the world's greatest farmers, they would be using management techniques that kept their farms resilient to climate change and still profitable. A quote he shared to help motivate him on his journey comes from Albert Einstein—"Those that have the privilege to know have the duty to act." He shared lots of information about his farm and answered the audience's questions.

Three local farmers formed a panel to discuss their use of cover crops on their farms. Jake Kaderly has a grain operation and uses wheat primarily as a cover crop. Jeremy Luckey has a dairy and likes to graze youngstock and steers on the cereal rye mixes as much as possible in the spring and fall. Robert Zurfluh has a mixed operation of heifers and grain and likes to use the cover crops to help with erosion control and potential biomass growth that would help as fertilizer for the next crop.

The last speaker of the day was Chris Bandura, a Conservation Cropping Specialist with UWEX. He explained the variety of sampling farmers could do to their soils and plants to help guide their management decisions. Most of the sampling has a specific timeframe to do the analysis in order to get the best results.

The annual meeting has been well attended by farmers that look forward to learning new information and networking with others that are trying conservation practices on their farms. The Albany Lions Club has hosted the annual event and provided excellent meals for the attendees. Their support of the group is invaluable. The Farmers of the Sugar River has a website and facebook page for others that would like to learn more about the group.

Nitrogen Workshop Planned For Everyone on March 14 at Albany Lions Club

Last August, a public meeting was held to discuss updates from the Green County Groundwater Quality Trend Data project. Attendees were asked about their ideas on how to improve the water quality in the county. An Action Plan was developed for the shared vision of having clean and safe groundwater in Green County by working towards stabilizing nitrate levels that begin to decrease to natural levels. 2024 is the first year of a five-year plan working toward achieving the vision.

To get all nitrate levels in groundwater to safe drinking levels and stay there is complicated and requires more learning on everyone's part. On Thursday, March 14, all are invited to attend a public meeting that will be held at the Albany Lions Club to learn about the variety of ways nitrogen can be managed. The morning session, kicking off at 10am, will focus on what farmers can do for nitrogen management in agriculture and the effects on water quality. Lunch will be served by the Albany Lions Club while participants will be able to network and learn from each other. The afternoon session will be informative for all landowners on different land management techniques that could be done to manage nitrogen on their landscape. The Green County Health Department will also be present to discuss testing wells for nitrates. Drinking water test kits will also be available for purchase to coordinate with county testing efforts.

The event is a collaboration between Green County Land and Water Conservation Department, UW-Extension, UW-Stevens Point and Green County Health Department. Lunch is made possible by the generous support of Wisconsin Bank and Trust, Compeer Financial, The Bank of New Glarus, Woodford Bank, and Lake Ridge Bank. Registration is required and free at: <https://forms.gle/meDBKfrjSgxK-kYXp8> or by calling the Land and Water Conservation Department at 605-325-4195 ext 121. For a more detailed agenda, check out the calendar on the Green County LWCD's website ([greencountylwcd.com](http://greencountylwcd.com))



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POLICE

Green County Sheriff's Department  
March 11-17, 2024

At 1:57 p.m., Monday, deputies conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for speeding in the N4600 block of STH 104, in the Town of Decatur. The investigation resulted in the driver, Precious M. Oller, 47, of Brodhead, being cited for operating after revocation (due to an alcohol offense) and speeding. Oller was released pending court.

At 1:54 p.m., Tuesday, deputies responded to the 2800 block of 6th Street, Green County Justice Center, in the City of Monroe, where Walter H. Crawford, 64, of Albany, was placed under arrest for an active

warrant through Rock County Sheriff's Office. Deputies later transported Crawford to the custody of Rock County deputies.

At 4:12 p.m., Sunday, deputies responded to the 2800 block of 6th Street (Green County Jail), in the City of Monroe, where David C. Kraft, 47, of Brodhead, was placed under arrest for an arrest warrant through Green County. Kraft was later incarcerated at the Green County Jail pending court.

**Advertising  
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South Central Wisconsin Farmers Union  
Perennial Farming as a Retirement Plan

By Betty Anderson



I began my farming journey in my 50th year when I met and married my husband, Dane who had deep roots on his third generation family farm. We quickly over diversified as I fell in love with all aspects of our homesteading lifestyle. While, this was completely unsustainable it was all sorts of good learning!

Walking and working our 40 acres we have always been acutely aware of the generations of folk who walked it before us. My husband reminisces about hunting the 600 plus acres he had access to as a boy and finding arrowheads, and wondering about who had left them. We are just three miles down the road from the giant burr oak that marked the halfway point on the Native American trade route that ran northeast to southwest from the lake (Michigan) to the big river (Mississippi). When looking at the abstract to our farm we discovered that Daniel and Polly Smith were the very first to deed our place from the US government. Thus we became The Old Smith Place in their honor, though we know many generations were here before them. Our only real goal for our time of stewardship has always been to leave the place a little better off than we found it.

We did not set out to do perennial crop farming rather we fell into it naturally, as our goals and needs shifted. As a girl, I learned to can and preserve food alongside my folks and have always loved it. Having all these acres to finally grow as much food as I wanted I quickly started my own business making gourmet jams and jellies under Wisconsin's very limiting Pickle Bill. I quickly bumped up against the 5K earnings cap and realized that after expenses I barely broke even. Still, I loved it and learned many things about direct and wholesale marketing and it did help cash flow the place during leaner times of the year. Of course hauling all this product around was expensive, time consuming and took a toll on my aging body leaving me prone to injury.

Without really planning to and in a somewhat haphazard fashion, each year we've added more and more perennial plantings of a food nature. Now, we live in a virtual food forest and are very intentionally adding to it every year. Organic vegetable farming is hard work! It suited us well for years and married well with our diversified livestock operation as we always had plenty of beautiful manure with which to fertilize and enrich our soil. Most of our cropland is in hay for our livestock and as we downsize the mixed herd this gives us another cash crop to sell. Little by little our vegetable farming beds are becoming perennial food crops like fruit trees, nuts and berries, grapes and asparagus.

We are disturbing our soil less and less as the years go by. We've planted aronia bushes on some areas of our farm with less desirable soil structures and are happy to see how the soil in these areas has improved drastically. We have no soil erosion happening on any part of

our land. As we seem to be trending warmer and drier we are relieved with the increased water and nutrient retention this affords us. Going forward we are anticipating having enough perennial plantings to be able to offer U-pick as an option for harvesting fruits, nuts, berries and grapes on our land; and probably right about the time we no longer have the capacity for it ourselves. One of the things that was so beneficial to me as a Navy veteran with PTS(d) was the peace I experienced just being here working with the land and the livestock. I look forward to sharing that opportunity with others.

While farming is not most folks typical "retirement plan"; with downsizing our work load and adding perennial cash crops it has turned out to be just right for us!

Betty Anderson and her husband Dane are the current stewards at The Old Smith Place outside Brodhead. They are Farmers Union members since 2016 and Betty is an alumni of the National Farmers Unions Beginning Farmer Institute. Betty is a Navy veteran and a trauma survivor. She is passionate about growing and preserving her harvest both to market and to nourish her family. She is also her tiny town's treasurer and holds down an off farm job in the housing industry whose focus is providing education in financial literacy and promoting home-ownership as a vehicle to stabilizing some of Beloit's tougher neighborhoods.

South Central Wisconsin Farmers Union is a member-driven committed to enhancing the quality of life for family farmers, rural communities, and all people through educational opportunities, cooperative endeavors, and civic engagement in Rock, Green, and Lafayette Counties.

Monday Night Mixed League

3/11—High series: LeRoy Blumer 709, Garrett Johnson 665, Mark Helwig 660. High games: L. Blumer 279, Al Petersen 256, M. Helwig 256. Broughton's Bar-high team 1,058 and series 3,042. **Standings:** Deb's Bar won 32 lost 10, Fosters Gaming 27-15, Center Tavern 24-18, Broughton's Bar 20-22, Beloit Chiropractic 14-28, Albany Lanes 9-33.

Tuesday Shanigans

3/12—High series: Alexis Sies 503, Barb Brugger 501, Chris Rosheisen 405, Becky Riese 405, Rick Josephsen 615, Rick Clark 544, Dan Eaton 486. High games: A. Sies 183, B. Brugger 183, C. Rosheisen 147, R. Josephsen 220, Rick Josephsen 191, Doug Keepers 169, Ted Yaun 169. Barely Upright-high team game 813 and series 2,293. **Standings:** Albany Lanes won 103 lost 44, Boomtastic 4 87-60, Barely Upright 84-63, Misfits 58-89, Greightful Dead 57-90, Sweet Mini HaHa 52-95.

Badger

3/12—High series: Josh Brugger 686, Cole Krupke 642, Tony Brewer 631, Rob Kubesh 598, Kim Qualley 387. High games: C. Krupke 257, J. Brugger 236, Ethan Pfuetti 235, T. Brewer 234, K. Qualley 245. Renks-high team game 778 and series 2,293. **Standings:** Pearl City Elevator won 29 lost 13, Counter Attack 25-17, Decatur Dairy 21-21, Renks 19-23, Jim's Mechanic Shop 19-23, Team 3 13-29.

Wednesday Night Ladies

3/13—High series: Zoe Krattiger 490, Tara Blumer 478, Nicole Brewer 461, Jessica Holtsapple 450, Darcy Stephenson 444. High games: J. Holtsapple 199, T. Blumer 192, Z. Krattiger 191, N. Brewer 180, Alice Patchen 173, Jen Cole 173. Glenn-Ann Ladies-high team game 623. Albertson's-high team series 1,742. **Standings:** Crystal's Team won 58 lost 26, Larson Acres 49-35, Glenn-Ann Ladies 42-42, Albertson's 39-45, Broughton's Bar 35-49, New Glarus Brewery 29-55.

Thursday Night Mixed

3/14—High series: Chad Malcook 703, Brandon Bayrholder 648, Ty Anderson 637, Jim Krattiger 628. High games: C. Malcook 266, Tim Golz 256, B. Bayrholder 254, Tyler Briggs 234. Broughton's Corner Bar 1-high team game 1,081. Rosheisen Rapper-high team series 3,074. **Standings:** Broughton's Corner Bar 1 won 35 lost 14, Glenn Ann Holsteins 33-16, Rosheisen Rapper 27-22, Attica Bar 24-25, Broughton's Corner Bar 2 17-32, Golz Electric 11-38.

Saturday Night Live Mixed

3/16—High series: Jason Shrier 723, Trevor Wahler 690, Tim Huffman 674, Lynsey Stevens 477, Dana Harper 434, Amber Foster 391. High games: J. Shrier 277, T. Wahler 257, Robert Murray 247, L. Stevens 196, D. Harper 173, A. Foster 172. Broughton's Bar-high team game 857 and series 2,362. **Standings:** Payne's Pub won 61 lost 2303, Rosheisen Baling 55-36, Fearsome Foursome 44-47, Broughton's Bar 38-53, Brodhead Free Press 36-55, Up N Smoke 35-56.

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## Brodhead Historical Society



**By Dolores Alsteen**

The month of March officially became Women's History Month in 1987. It celebrates the contributions and achievements of women throughout history.

### A TRIBUTE TO BELLE FLEEK HARLOW

Belle and her husband, Austin opened the Harlow gift shop in 1940. The business was successful, and she was soon surrounded by many new friends and patrons. She became known to children, teenagers and later, many grateful soldiers as Aunt Belle. It was in this little shop that the newspaper would later originate.

When World War II started, Belle corresponded with many of the first Brodhead area men and women serving in the military. The number grew so much that she decided to print and mail out a newsletter every three months, under the name, The Harlow Newzette. Volume 1, Number 1 with a circulation at the time of 265 printed on November 12, 1943. Editing The Harlow Newzette was a gigantic task as its object was to list all the Brodhead area servicemen and women, giving their OPA around the world. At the time they moved frequently, the work of keeping up to date on addresses was almost a full-time job. On one of the mailings of The Harlow Newzette there were 136 copies sent airmail to the front lines at a total cost of \$8.16. One hundred and thirty-nine copies of regular mail sent were a total cost of \$4.17. Many of the area businesses contributed to the cost of the mailings. Printing of The Harlow

Newzette came to approximately \$65 an issue and was paid for by Austin and Belle as their contribution to our fighting servicemen and women. Belle organized The Wives Club, which gave her valuable assistance with the project and gave lonesome wives at home constructive work.

The Harlow Gift Shop became the center for relatives and friends to gather and update Belle on the latest news from home along with service members addresses to add to the newsletter. It also contained the latest military promotions, awards, injuries, missing in action, P.O.W.s and deaths. There was always a list by the front door with service members' birthdays. The list was changed each week, and soon another card, letter or package would be on its way.

Unfortunately, Belle's husband, Austin passed away in March 1945. She carried on with her work until her death in September 1962. Belle found time for active participation in community projects. She was especially active in the work of the American Legion Auxiliary for many years.

Belle's newsletters were a great morale builder as every serviceman and women would agree. Veterans came from miles around to pay their last respects to a woman some of them didn't even know personally. Upon reading the praises by many who knew, loved and respected Belle Fleet Harlow, we pay tribute to her for the many contributions and achievements that she made.



Ashlyn Cayetano Pueblita, Bella Santiago Aguilar and Josie Smithback, performed a trumpet trio

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

**By Beth Riesterer**

On Saturday, February 24th the halls of Brodhead High School were filled with music as 7-12th grade band and choir students participated in our local Solo and Ensemble festival. The students spent months preparing vocal, instrumental and piano solos, duets, trios, or small ensembles and performed before an adjudicator. The students spend months preparing pieces to perform for a judge. It was great to hear so many positive comments and great feedback from the judges.

A special thank you to all of the parents that helped make the day

successful—especially Meghan Sievers, Hayley Jordan, Anna Jubie and Karen Elmer. 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: Peyton Jordan, Matthew Nordeng, Arnott Buxton, Hayden Elmer, Elena Boston, Ella Olson, Brant Riesterer, Wyatt Valentin, Hudson Wallin, Bryson Oli-

ver, Gabby Jones, Sawyer Phillips, Gracie Hefty, Josie Picard, Kalena Riemer, Natalia Baldazzi, Mayson Van Matre, Kylee Cole, Isabel Murphy, Belle Yoshida, Laetin Pinnow, Nicole Miller, Montana Restivo, Lillian Sievers, Gavin Pinnow, Kayla Perry, Makayla Babel, Noah Perry, Aiden Arn, Hunter Jorgensen and Elly Olson.

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.



Jenna Pinnow and Abby Withrow performed an alto sax/clarinet duet



Alexa Jansen and Braeleigh Schout performed a clarinet duet



Elianna Shank accompanied Simon Moore on his flute solo



Jenna Dougherty abd Aubrie Yoshida performed a mallet duet at Solo and Ensemble



The students that performed at the Honor's Recital. Photos provided by Diana Dougherty, Sara Jordan, Jason Riesterer and Beth Riesterer.

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