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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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POSTAL PATRON

Green County Development Corporation Launches \$2.8 Million Housing Development Fund to Boost Local Housing

Green County Development Corporation (GCDC) is excited to announce the launch of the Housing Development Fund, a groundbreaking initiative designed to address the county's housing needs by incentivizing new residential development. Backed by \$2.8 million in funding from six local partners, this program will provide low-interest loans to developers, encouraging the construction of new homes across Green County.

Fueled by the 2024 Housing Study conducted by Southwest Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, and multiple community

housing forums hosted by GCDC and Green County Healthy Community Coalition (GCHCC), efforts were targeted to bring affordable, single and multi-family homes to the county. The 2024 study indicated a need for over 1,700 homes to be built before 2030 to support growth in the area.

"The Housing Development Fund is a momentum builder designed to create a thriving, sustainable, and diverse housing market that supports workforce growth, enhances community well-being, and fosters long-term economic stability. By bridging funding gaps, engag-

ing local developers and financial institutions, and promoting strategic housing investments, we are not just building homes—we are building a future that says Green County is a great place to grow, invest, and call home," said Olivia Otte, Executive Director at GCDC. "This initiative is a testament to what we can achieve when we work together. It takes a strong, collaborative team to drive economic growth, and we are incredibly grateful for the dedication of our partners in making this vision a reality."

The Housing Development Fund represents a unique collaboration between public and private stakeholders who recognized the urgent need for more residential options. With a matching funds pledge, the Colony Brands Foundation led the way for additional funders to commit to this program. Other supporters include Klondike Cheese, The Bank of New Glarus, Woodford State Bank, Lakeridge Bank, Green County Healthy Communities Coalition, and SSM Health. All have united in the efforts to make financing more accessible for developers ready to invest in Green County's future.

Colony Brands Foundation President, John Baumann addressed their commitment to the project with this statement, "Strong communities take a long-term view in addressing the needs of their people and the schools, businesses and infrastructure they support. They understand the best interests of their people and businesses, and work hand in hand towards common goals. To support their families, people want to pursue viable careers and establish homes in neighborhoods near where they work. New housing development is crucial for addressing the growing demand for affordable and sustainable living options in Green County. The Housing Development Fund will provide sound gap financing

for residential developers. The Colony Brands Foundation sees this program as a key incentive to drive smart growth across Green County. We are proud to support it."

Through this initiative, GCDC aims to accelerate housing construction in Green County, providing opportunities for developers to build a variety of housing types, from single-family homes to multi-unit developments. This revolving loan fund will help alleviate financial barriers and promote sustainable growth in communities throughout the county.

Developers interested in learning more about the Housing Development Fund and how to apply for financing are encouraged to contact GCDC at 608-328-9452 or email Olivia Otte at olivia@greencounty-development.com.

Country Garden Restaurant
*Hours: 7am-3pm Daily
Fri 7am-8pm*

7 a.m.-3 p.m. — APRIL SPECIALS — 11 a.m.-3 p.m.	
Mon: 2+2+2, Biscuit & gravy/2 eggs \$9	Mon: Any Burger w/FF \$9
Tues: Any Skillet or Omelet \$10	Tues: Any Pasta—spaghetti, lasagna, mostaccioli, fettuccine \$10
Wed.: 2 pc. French Toast	Wed.: Any Sandwich w/FF \$10
2 pc. Pancakes \$6	Thurs: Chicken, Beef or Shrimp Stir Fry \$10
2 p.m. Swedish	
Thurs: Any Skillet or Omelet \$10	

FRIDAY 2-8 p.m. Fried Cod Baked Cod Jumbo Shrimp 21 Shrimp

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QUILT CONTEST

Theme Choices:
Covered Bridges and/or Wild Flowers

Entry Fee:
\$20.00 and includes your choice of a covered bridge panel (while supplies last) or 1 yard of fabric from the "QT dance" line of fabric that must be used in your entry.

Rules: Contest entries are open to anything made from fabric: (purse, wallet, table runner, bag, lap quilt, wall hanging, pillow, etc...) Entry may not exceed 50" x 50" Entries must be turned in on or before August 1st - No Exceptions!	Prizes: 1st Place: \$100 Gift Certificate to Keeping Up with the Jones's Quilt Shop 2nd Place: Light Up Glow Ruler 3rd Place: 3-yard Quilt Kit of your choice
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Entries will be displayed for public voting at **Keeping up with the Jones's Quilt Shop** from **August 5th - August 9th**

Invite your friends, family and neighbors to come and vote for your entry!
Winners will be notified via telephone and announced on Facebook on August 10th.

All Entries may be picked up during business hours on August 12th.

COVERED BRIDGE DAYS
Brodhead, WI

Contact Lori Jones with questions at 608-897-9401.
OR
visit us at 908 1st Center Ave,
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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@bethlehembrodhead.org. Website: www.bethlehembrodhead.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.

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 thru May. Nursery is available for those who desire. Communion first Sunday of each month. Quilting and crafts workshop every Wednesday at 9 a.m. AA meetings Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m. Two Bible study sessions on “Christianity by Contract,” Saturday, April 12 and Saturday, April 19, at noon at UCC. Everyone in community is welcome. “Trauma Talk” dealing with anxiety and grief presentation Sunday, April 6, at 5 p.m. hosted by Rev. Dr. Shawn Stapleton, UCC Pastor. Open to community. Ecumenical Lenten mid-week services noon, through Wed., Apr. 9. Location rotating weekly between three Brodhead churches.

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

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school, 10:30 a.m. morning worship, 6 p.m. evening service. Wednesday 6 p.m. service.

Juda-Zion Community Church, N2350 Church Street, 608-934-5398. 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 Doeblor. 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, 608-934-5551. 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



Richard “Chub” Sommerfeldt

Richard “Chub” Sommerfeldt, age 86, of Orfordville, passed away at Mercy Health on Wednesday, March 26, 2025.

He was born in Center Township, Rock County on April 28, 1938, the son of William and Nellie (Damen) Sommerfeldt.

Chub grew up on a farm south of Footville, spending days making many memories with his siblings. He graduated from Orfordville High School in 1956. He worked at General Motors for 42 and one-half years, retiring January 1, 2000. He was a lifelong member of Orfordville Lutheran Church. He loved gardening, tinkering in his garage/basement, spending time at Stone Lake near Hayward and dining at Kay’s Outback in Orfordville “everyday”. He also enjoyed following the Green Bay Packers, Wisconsin Badgers and Nascar.

He is survived by his son: Randy (Laurie) of Brodhead; grandchildren: Aaron (Kaitlin) Bevars of Waxahachie, Texas, Bradley (Candace) Bevars of San Antonio, Texas and Braydon Sommerfeldt of Brodhead; great grandchildren: Hunter, Hayden, Colton, Adelyn and Elizabeth Bevars; brother: Jerry Sommerfeldt of Janesville; sister: Jan (Harley) Weisse of Waukesha and son-in-law: Bruce (Mary) Bevars of Fort Worth, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Janelle Bevars; brothers: Sheldon (Donna) and Virgil (Nancy) Sommerfeldt; sister-in-law, Judy; nephew, Craig Sommerfeldt and special friend, Mary Phillips.

Funeral services were held at Orfordville Lutheran Church at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, April 1, with Pastor Tom Kreis officiating. A visitation was held from 9:30 a.m. until the time of service on Tuesday at the church.


Burial will be in Orfordville Lutheran Cemetery.

Newcomer-Silverthorn Chapel on the Hill, Orfordville is assisting the family.

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DEATH NOTICE

Laura Gramacki

2025 Gap Church Cemetery notice

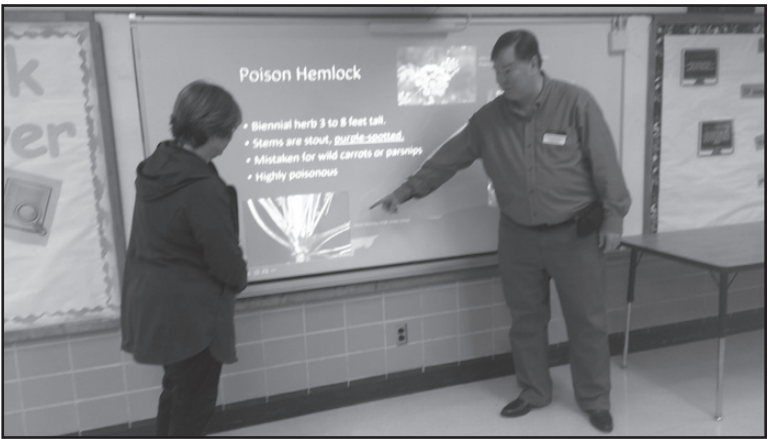
Laura Gramacki, 99, of Brodhead, died on Monday, March 17, 2025, at The Heights Assisted Living Community, Evansville, Wisconsin. Grace-Bifulk Funeral and Cremation Service assisted the family.

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Jay Solomon, a Natural Resources and Environmental Educator, with the University of Illinois Extension, points out the structure of a poisonous invasive to Penny Billman during the program on Invasives in the Landscape Saturday, March 29 at the Durand Library. Penny and her husband Chuck are combating nonnative invasive plants on their rural property and adding more beneficial native plants.

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Dealing with Trauma

Rev. Dr. Shawn Stapleton will present Dealing with Trauma—understanding grief, anxiety and your brain, on Sunday, April 6 at 5 p.m. at the UCC Church, Brodhead. During this hour-long presentation he will share the ways in which our brains cope with loss and trauma and introduce strategies that help alleviate these conditions. Based on research presented by such authors as Mary-Frances O'Connor—The Grieving Brain and Bessel van der Kolk—The Body Keeps the Score, this information will help those struggling with grief, anxiety and other emotionally paralyzing conditions better understand why they feel the way they feel and how to cope when strong emotions strike.

There will be a question and answer session after the presentation. Beverages and light refreshments will be served.

Everyone in the community is invited to attend, so stop by and bring a friend.

Monroe Balloon and Blues Festival

The ARC-Green County will present the Monroe Balloon and Blues Festival on Friday, June 13 and Saturday, June 14. Admission and parking are \$3. They will have food trucks both days along with hot air balloon flight, bands, balloon glow, craft fair, car show, carnival, pancake breakfast more. The event will be held at the Green County Fair Grounds.

For times and updates follow them in Facebook or their web site www.monroeballoonandblues.com.


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ACTIVITIES AROUND TOWN

SPRING INTO ACTION— DONATE BLOOD AND SAVE LIVES!

The Brodhead Blood Drive will be held Tuesday, April 15, from noon to 5 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 405 E. 9th Avenue, Brodhead.

For an appointment call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org. Use sponsor code: BrodheadWI to schedule an appointment. Walk-ins welcome!

BRODHEAD COMMUNITY BAND

The Brodhead Community Band will perform on Saturday, June 28 at 1 p.m. at Family Fest and Sunday, August 10, at 6 p.m. at Twilight In The Park.

Rehearsals will be held at the Brodhead High School from 6-7:30 pm. on Tuesdays: May 27, June 3, June 10, June 17, June 24, July 8, July 15, July 29 and August 5.

For more information call 608-897-2155 ext. 253 or email jriesterer@brodhead.k12.wi.us.

POST PROM DONATIONS

Parents of the Brodhead High School junior class are asking for donations to help sponsor this year's post prom event. The donations will help pay for games, food and door prizes for the students.

Post Prom will be held at Bass Creek Golf Course and will feature virtual golf, darts, bags, pool, hunting game, photo booth, cards/games and a jukebox.

They are hoping to have all donations by Friday, April 11. Please contact Angie Fields at 608-897-2184.

CHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE MEETING

A softball organizational meeting for Sunday Night Church league has been set for Thursday, April 17th 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 the Parks and Recreation Office at 608-897-2159.

MENS SOFTBALL LEAGUE MEETING

A softball organizational meeting for Tuesday Night Men's League, (25 years and over) has been set for Thursday, April 17th at 7 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 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 the Park and Rec Office at 608-897-2159. Leagues will begin in May.

ANNUAL LOT OWNER'S MEETING

The Annual Lot Owner's meeting will be held at John's Barber Shop, at 911 Exchange Street, Brodhead, on Wednesday April 16th, at 5:30 p.m. The Trustee's meeting will be held at the same location, following the Lot Owner's meeting.

Saturday Mornings at the Durand Library

How the States Got Their Shapes Part 4—The Southwest and Pacific Coast States

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

Please join us Saturday, April 12 for the final presentation on how our 50 states came to be shaped the way they are. Avid historian Brad Keyes has distilled and summarized for us this complex story and his excellent presentations and commentary bring history to life.

Brad is going to wrap up our look at “How the States got their Shapes” by explaining how the American people were not done with expansion. The concept of Manifest Destiny was the common belief in the 19th century and some people felt it gave them the right to expand the United States clear across North America from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Discover why our border with present day Canada is at the 49th parallel and not the 50th or 48th. Learn why we went to war with Mexico and what we gained from it, and why we used thievery to take land away from Spain and Hawaii. Understand what the Gadsden Purchase and Seward's Folly added to the country.

The program is Saturday, April 12 at 10 a.m. Please join us and hear the rest of the story!

About the Library

The Durand Library is a collaboration between Durand School and the Friends of the Durand Library. Everyone is cordially invited to all events at the library. Durand School District residents can check out books during public hours Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon and Tuesdays 6-8 p.m.

Entry is at the east or playground end of the school building. Look for the familiar blue library sign at the sidewalk and follow signs on the building. For more information, email villagelibrary@cusd322.org, call or text 815-289-8602 or visit FB.com/durandvillagelibrary.

Durand Library Hours

Please note library closed—Saturday, April 5. Regular hours will resume Tuesday, April 8.

Brodhead Evening Garden Club Scholarship

The Brodhead Evening Garden Club invites seniors who have an interest Horticulture, Plant Science, Landscaping, Turf Science or Natural Resources to submit an application and a one-page essay detailing their school achievements, grade point average, extra-curricular activities, future goals and career objectives. All applications must be submitted by Friday, April 25. Students may be attending a two-year, four-year or technical college. The scholarship awarded may be up to \$500. Please send your application to Julie Neeley at brodheadgardenclub32@gmail.com, put Scholarship in the subject line.

Footville Fire and EMS Pancake Breakfast

The Footville Fire and EMS will host a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, April 26, from 6:30-11 a.m. at the fire station located at 252 N. Gilbert Street. They will be serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage links, milk, juice and coffee. The cost is adults \$10, children \$5 and two and under are free. Dine in, carry out and delivery available in Footville Fire District. Call 608-876-6118.

There will be 50/50 and basket raffle tickets for purchase. Winner will be drawn at the end of the event. You do not need to be present to win! There will be some silent auction items as well.

Green County Genealogical Society to meet

The Green County Genealogical Society will present “Early Poor Farm Records of Pleasant View” by Jeremy Broge. The presentation is Saturday, April 5, at 10 a.m. in the Monroe Public Library community room on the second floor.

Jeremy Broge will talk about the history of the Green County Poor Farm to the present day Pleasant View Nursing Complex. Built in 1882 for \$6,390, the Green County Asylum originally was a single building facility for 40 patients. Despite the institution's name, the facility served as the home for the county's poor and elderly as well. The asylum became locally known as the Poor Farm and would expand to several buildings and hundreds of acres of fields over time.

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

BINGO!!

BIG CASH PAYOUTS!!

(Running Progressive Pot)

Thursday, April 10

Continuing 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month!

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.
Bingo starting at 6:30 p.m.
Food stand open at 5:30 p.m.

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Dealing with Trauma

Understanding Grief, Anxiety and Your Brain

Sunday, April 6 at 5 p.m.

UCC Church • E201 23rd St • Brodhead
Rev. Dr. Shawn Stapleton will share ways in which our brains cope with loss and trauma and introduce strategies that help alleviate these conditions during this hour long presentation.

Beverages and light refreshments will be served.
Everyone in the community is invited to attend, so stop by and bring a friend.

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- Cinda L.

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150+ - Hayden Finley 1X
150 - Joesiah Scott 1X
132 - Olivia Medearis 1X
130 - Nolen Rebman 4X
125 - Emerson Schmidt 3X
125 - Alyzah Scott 1X
110 - Casen Cavitt 2X
105 - Vivian Aasen 1X
105 - Sara French 1X
105 - Callum Calvert 1X
105 - Bryson Miller 2X
95 - Holly Wallin 2X
90 - Madison Hendrickson 1X
84 - Sawyer Allen 1X
82 - Tatem Constantini 4X
82 - Brynlee Keck 1X
80 - Louis Perkins 1X
75 - Tucker Medearis 1X
75 - Kallen Miller 1X
70 - Rylee Huffman 2X

Alternates: Jackson Allen & Deacon Spooner



Parkview Albany Youth Wrestling Club

Parkview Albany Youth Wrestling Club sent 24 youth wrestlers on to the WWF Kids Folkstyle State Championships in Madison, Thursday, March 27 to Sunday, March 30. Twenty-four out of 35 youth wrestlers made the Regional Podium in Oregon, River Valley, Westby and Burlington. Advancing on to State were:

70 Rylee Huffman 2X; 75 Kallen Miller 1X; 75 Tucker Medearis 1X; 80 Louis Perkins 1X; 82 Tatem Constantini 4X; 82 Brynlee Keck 1X; 84 Sawyer Allen 1X; 90 Madison Hendrickson 1X; 95 Holly Wollin 2X; 105 Callum Calvert 1X; 105 Sara French 1X; 105 Vivian Aasen 1X; 105 Bryson Miller 2X; 110 Casen Cavitt 2X; 125 Emerson Schmidt 3X; 125 Alyzah Scott 1X; 130 Nolen Rebman 4X; 132 Olivia Medearis 1X; 150 Joesiah Scott 1X; 150+ Hayden Finley 1X; 172++ Bridget Meshirer 1X; 185 George Perkins 1X; 190 Rylan Aasen 4X; and 270 Jimmy Merritt 5X.





New Baseball Scoreboard

Hello, my name is Max Pinnow and I am a high school senior and also the first baseman for the Brodhead-Juda Cardinals. For my required senior project, I decided to find a way to integrate my love of baseball into the project, which

is how I landed on the idea to raise \$25,000 to put a new scoreboard on the varsity baseball diamond. The old scoreboard was outdated and hard for spectators to read. Last week the much anticipated new scoreboard was delivered

and installed thanks to the following generous sponsors: Decatur Dairy, Jennifer Elliott of EXIT Realty, Campbell's Piggly Wiggly, Jeremy Pinnow and Associates, Spring Grove Dairy, and the Brodhead Lions Club. Please come out on Friday, April 4th at 4:30 p.m., as my teammates and I begin the journey of defending the RVC Conference title. Prior to the first pitch, we will be recognizing our sponsors for making this project possible.

BASEBALL
SCOREBOARD
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APRIL 4TH 2025
4:30PM @ BHS
VARSITY BASEBALL
GAME
VS.
DAKOTA



Rotary Botanical Gardens Launches “Morning Walking Club: Step Into Nature” for 2025

Rotary Botanical Gardens is excited to introduce the Morning Walking Club: Step Into Nature, a new wellness initiative designed to encourage physical activity, mindfulness, and community engagement in a peaceful outdoor setting. Participants can enjoy a self-paced walk through 20 acres of beautifully maintained gardens, offering an opportunity to stay active while experiencing the changing landscapes throughout the seasons.

This program is open to all fitness levels and is ideal for individuals looking to embrace a healthy start to the day through movement and time in nature.

Event Details

- Location: Rotary Botanical Gardens, 1455 Palmer Drive, Janesville
- Dates: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (ongoing, except on major holidays when the Gardens are closed) from Wednesday, April 2 through Friday, October 31
- Time: 9-10 a.m.
- Registration Cost:
 - Free for Rotary Botanical Gardens members
 - Non-members pay the daily admission rate (see website for details)
- Registration Deadline: No advance registration required; check in at the entrance before beginning your walk
- Track your steps/miles to be entered for drawings
- Free maps to plan your walking path

(Continued to page 5)

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Manure
(Continued from page 4)
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Annual Development of Band’s Concert

On Sunday, March 9th the Brodhead High School gym was filled with 240 fourth through 12th grade Brodhead Band members as they performed in the annual Development of Band’s Concert. This year’s theme was “Adventure Awaits”. The students dressed in trip attire and played songs that involved traveling or adventure. Some songs performed were: “Geyser Point March”, “All Aboard!”, “The Greatest Show”, “Holiday Road” and “Selections from Wicked”. This concert also featured the themed basket fund-raiser. We are so grateful to everyone that helped and supported the Brodhead Band Department. Photos courtesy of Diana Dougherty.



Program covers: (left to right) Lilly Hatter, Mykenna Jordan, Stella Kempel, Bella Santiago-Aguilar and Aria Yoshida These girls made the program covers that were used at the Development of Band’s Concert.

Green County Family YMCA Facility to be Renamed in Honor of Colony Brands’ Generous Support

Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Set for June 14th

The Green County Family YMCA is proud to announce the renaming of its facility to Colony Brands Green County Family YMCA, in recognition of a transformational gift from Colony Brands that helped make the YMCA’s long-awaited facility expansion possible. The renaming will be celebrated alongside a Grand Opening of the expansion at a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Saturday, June 14th.

Thanks to Colony Brands’ extraordinary generosity, the YMCA has expanded to better serve Green County families, adding new and improved spaces to better serve the community. This investment reflects a shared commitment to strengthening the community and ensuring that the Y remains accessible and welcoming for all.

The YMCA’s enhanced facility includes an additional 60,000 square feet of program space. New spaces include:

- Childcare Center: Designed to accommodate up to 86 children from four years old and under.
- Youth Development Center: Providing afterschool care and summer programming for children ages 5-12.
- Healthy Living Center: Featuring cutting edge fitness and rehab equipment for adults of any age.
- Fitness Studios: Three separate studios have been designed to empower and elevate group workouts and fitness classes.
- Indoor Track: ADA accessible, with lots of natural light to the east and west, with three separate lanes to walk, run, or even push a stroller. (10 laps = 1 mile)
- Kids Zone: Up to 90 minutes of drop-in care for children ages eight and under, enabling parents to get a workout in.
- Gymnastics Center: A new, larger center that will allow for almost twice as much programming with plenty of viewing for adults.
- Fireside Lounge: A community room where people can collaborate, hang out, play games, and just be themselves.
- Healthy Living Kitchen: A community kitchen where children and adults can learn about how to make healthy food choices and learn the basics of preparing good food for the body.

“We are passionate supporters of Monroe and Green County,” said John Baumann, President of the Colony Brands Foundation. “We believe that driving transformational change in the quality and diversity of recreational programs offered at the YMCA will make a very positive impact on the quality of life for local children and adults. We are proud to make this legacy gift to the YMCA and the local community.”

“For decades, Colony Brands has been a pillar of our community, and their support has made this expansion a reality,” said Trent Henning, Executive Director of the YMCA. “We are honored to carry their name as we enter this new chapter, growing our impact and continuing to serve individuals and families for generations to come.”

The Grand Opening event will feature a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, guided tours of the expanded facility, Healthy Kids Day programming, adult fitness classes, community health experts, and opportunities for the public to experience the new amenities firsthand. The entire public—community members, donors, and YMCA supporters—are invited to join the celebration.

For more details, visit www.greencountyymca.org.

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POLICE

Green County Sheriff's Department
March 24-30, 2025

At 10:10 a.m., Monday, deputies, along with Albany EMS, Albany FD, and Green County EMS responded to the N6700 block of Norwegian Road, in the Town of Albany, for a reported single vehicle crash with unknown injuries. The investigation found that the driver, Justin W. Hartwig, 39, of Albany, was traveling north when the vehicle entered the ditch and then collided with a power pole. The vehicle sustained disabling damage, with no airbag deployment, and was towed from the scene. Hartwig was not wearing his seat belt and was later transported to the Hospital for medical treatment. The investigation resulted in Hartwig being placed under arrest for operating while under the influence and later released to a responsible party pending court.

At 3:07 p.m., Monday, deputies, along with Brodhead PD, Brodhead EMS, Brodhead FD, Green County EMS, and Orfordville EMS responded to the intersection of STH 81 and CTH T, in the Town

SSM Health Monroe Hospital CNO Chelsea Hardacre earns organization's highest honor for exceptional work

SSM Health Monroe Hospital and SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital—Janesville Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) Chelsea Hardacre was surprised with SSM Health's highest honor on Tuesday, March 25.

The Presidential Coin, presented by SSM Health President and CEO Laura Kaiser, recognizes SSM Health caregivers who exemplify commitment to living the Mission of SSM Health.

Hardacre was nominated for the award by SSM Health Wisconsin CNO Caren Lewis.

"When I think about a great leader, my immediate thought goes to someone who embodies excellence and always goes above and beyond their job duties," Lewis said. "Chelsea Hardacre does that and shows a compassion and respect for others that sets her apart."

Lewis commended Hardacre's ability to support teams with day-to-day operational needs, in addition to providing exceptional leadership during challenging situations or emergencies.

Lewis also noted that Hardacre's creativity and focus on continuous improvement has grown opportunities for rural healthcare nurses to grow and serve their communities.

Hardacre joined SSM Health Monroe Hospital in 2015. She brought 10 years of healthcare experience to a role in Quality and Safety. She became director of quality in 2016 and became CNO in 2020. Hardacre became CNO of SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital—Janesville in late 2023.



Chelsea Hardacre after receiving the SSM Health Presidential Coin on March 25.

of Spring Grove for a reported two-vehicle crash with unknown injuries. The investigation found Eugene R. Thompson, 63, of Monroe, was traveling eastbound on STH 81 when a vehicle driven by Richard E. Fluck, 88, of Davis, failed to yield the right of way from the stop sign traveling northbound on CTH T resulting in Thompson's vehicle colliding with Fluck's vehicle.

(Continued to page 7)

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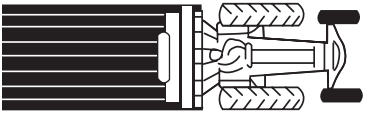
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POLICE

(Continued from page 6)

Thompson and Fluck reported that they were wearing their seat belts and were later transported to the hospital for apparent non-life-threatening injuries. Thompson's vehicle sustained disabling damage with airbag deployment and Fluck's vehicle sustained disabling damage with no airbag deployment. Both vehicles were towed from the scene.

At 8:59 a.m., Saturday, deputies responded to the W300 block of Rockhill Road, in the Town of Spring Grove, for a disturbance. The investigation resulted with Harvey F. Pribble, 59, of Brodhead, being placed under arrest for disorderly conduct falling under the Wisconsin Domestic Abuse Laws. Pribble was later incarcerated at the Green County Jail pending court.

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Monday Night Mixed League
3/24—High series: Jason Shrier 695, Denny Schultz 616, Paul Wakeley 613. High games: J. Shrier 267, Mike Fenwick 256, Glayden Wahler 247. Broughton's Bar-high team game 1,003. Fosters Gaming-high team series 2,880. **Standings:** Broughton's Bar won 38 lost 25, Center Tavern 35-28, Bartelt 34-29, Fosters Gaming 31-32, Albany Lanes 27-36, Beloit Chiropractic 24-39.

Tuesday Shanigans
3/25—High series: Alexis Sies 526, Shi Strommen 378, Chris Rosheisen 338, Dan Eaton 562, Guy Stamm 547, Doug Hawkins 539. High games: A. Sies 191, C. Rosheisen 165, S. Strommen 137, G. Stamm 204, Dennis Atkinson 192, D. Eaton 191. The Young & The Restless-high team game 892 and series 2,556. **Standings:** The Young & The Restless won 114 lost 47, Albany Lanes 100-61, Sweet Mini HaHa 82-79, Misfits 70-91, Clayt's Boomtastic 64-97, Greightful Dead 53-108.

Badger
3/25—High series: Tony Brewer 677, Keith Riese 623, Ryan Brugger 606, Jim Laughlin 606, Kim Qualley 424, Megan Anderson 416. High games: T. Brewer 255, J. Laughlin 235, K. Riese 233, Ethan Koss 233, K. Qualley 161, M. Anderson 145. Renks-high team game 866 and series 2,353. **Standings:** Decatur Dairy won 29 lost 20, Jim's Mechanic Shop 28-21, Team 6 26-23, Renks 25-24, TUGS 22-27, Counter Attack 17-32.

Wednesday Night Ladies
3/26—High series: Shianne Broughton 509, Kari Johnson 495, Tara Blumer 473, Marcie Brugger 445, Debbie Williams 445. High games: S. Broughton 241, Rikki Thomas-Martin 201, D. Williams 180, Darcy Stephenson 177, K. Johnson 177. Albertson's-high team game 625 and series 1,690. **Standings:** Glenn-Ann Ladies won 52 lost 32, Crystal's Team 52-32, General Store 42-42, Larson Acres 42-42, Albertson's 33-51, Stables Bar & Grill 31-53.




Thursday Afternoon Ladies
3/27—High series: Becky Riese 520, Tana Klitzman 422, Nancy Salzwedel 420. High games: B. Riese 190, T. Klitzman 180, N. Salzwedel 162. Mike's Flooring-high team game 560 and series 1,584. **Standings:** Nolte's Garage won 73 lost 25, Albany Lanes 60-38, Mike's Flooring 57-41, Ball's Installation 54-44, Knutes 42-56.

Thursday Night Mixed
3/27—High series: Rob Kubesh 673, Jason Shrier 663, Tony Brewer 638, Erich Brandenburg 636. High games: Chad Malcook 268, Brandon Bayrholder 257, Ty Anderson 245, R. Kubesh 235. Albany Lanes-high team game 1,114 and series 3,150. **Standings:** Albany Lanes won 41 lost 22, Attica Bar 35-28, Glenn Ann Holsteins 33-30, Broughton's Corner Bar 1 31-32, Broughton's Corner Bar 2 31-32, Golz Electric 18-45.

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By Laura Roth, Children's Librarian

Old MacDonald had a farm . . . (That makes a person sing, doesn't it?) The Preschool Story Time at Albertson Memorial Library had a noisy time this week, making farm animal sounds to go with the book Book! Book! Book! (He had a chicken! . . . everywhere a book, book book!) Moo Dog was another favorite story! Who knew a dog could mooooo? The youngsters then went around the room making farm ani-



mal sounds using a chanting cadence. Finally, a pig in a Ziploc with pink paint and a mess-free paint project, suitable for the 18 (WOW!) story time participants.

Next week is the beginning of "April Showers!" The children will read stories about rain, and even create rain in a jar! There will be a project involving the kids' names in raindrops, even. And splashing in mud puddles, hopping from one to another.

Preschool Story Time meets every week on Tuesday at 10 a.m. Last week was a whopper as far as attendance goes, but there's always room for more. We look forward to meeting new friends. Won't you join us?

This free newspaper is only possible due to the generosity of many fine area businesses. Please show your gratitude by supporting them.



GCCCN Members and Parents Meet With Sen. Marklein

Green County Child Care Network members and parents from Brodhead, Monroe, New Glarus, and Monticello met with Sen. Marklein on Wednesday evening, March 19, for an hour to discuss the current state of childcare in our county and the state.

Group and family childcare owners reviewed their revenue and expenses with him to explain the basic operational expenses associated with quality childcare. Then the amount that was left allowed for wages and no benefits. Furthermore, they explained that we are at the top of what we can charge for tuition and still have enough wealthy families to enroll and remain open. That WI Shares subsidy is not in compliance with federal requirements to continue receiving the money since its payments are too low and only 9% of eligible families use it because of this.

One member stated she is closing her family child care next year because her husband is retiring and they need health care, the other family child care all said the only reason they can remain open is their spouses have health insurance and retirement. The programs talked about the current revenue including the federally funded and state allocated that offsets tuition that increased average wages from \$10.66 to the current \$13.86 an hour.

If the Joint Finance Committee doesn't include the Governor's budget request of \$480 million the results will be a collapse of what is left of the childcare system. Programs will either close or increase tuition 20% or more a week per child. This will result in out pricing the market. Even if a fraction of the families withdraw their children, we will then close, leaving even those who are wealthy enough without care and their employers without workers. A handout breaking down this impossible mathematical equation had a breakdown of average county two earner household income minus basic expenses like housing, food, transportation, and utilities. A family with both a one and four year old at a group center is "underwater" \$404 a month, and at a family childcare they have \$89 left. This shows how untenable it is and why more and more families are choosing to forego children altogether, have one child, or spread them out so that they are not in full-time care at the same time.

Two parents also attended, one who has been looking for employment and finally decided she would go to work at the YMCA when their expansion opens so that she can bring in a small income, but more importantly, her child can interact with other children. She was surprised the wage offered was above

the average for the state as she has no experience. Parent Darci Wilson stated, "Childcare is a crisis in our state. We are unable to find childcare because of the shrinking number of providers. If we were able to get in the cost is astronomical. I would have been working to send my children to daycare. My weekly tuition costs would have been over \$600 dollars a week."

Other topics covered were the importance of at least 60% special ed reimbursement and the additional 10.5 million for children 3-7 so that those with additional needs are identified, receive therapy, and are supported in child care programs with paraprofessionals in addition to while at school once they enter. This will likely prevent secondary needs from developing. For children needing only minimal support likely reduces the years therapy is needed, reducing costs and increasing outcomes for the child.

A solution presented by GCCCN members included state funding for the first time and a minimal payroll tax that increases revenue for child care programs to increase wages and stabilize or reduce tuition that allows all employers to participate instead of just those that are wealthy for profit businesses.

Lori Sutherland, family childcare professional, had this to say about the event, "We were pleased to present to Sen. Marklein our views on the shutting down of the essential childcare industry. Senator Marklein was very attentive to our concerns. We challenged him to find a better way to manage the income and expenses of childcare as well. His response was, 'you are the experts of your business and profession.' Sen. Marklein, thank you for taking the time to listen to us."

The GCCCN is looking forward to working TOGETHER to solve this crisis so our children, the adults who care for and educate them, parents, and communities throughout Wisconsin can thrive.

GCDC Launches Tech Connect Program for digital equity in the county

Green County Development Corporation (GCDC) in partnership with Green County IT Department is launching a program aimed at meeting the Adoption and Sustainability core values in Wisconsin's Digital Equity Plan. The vision of this plan is to make sure all Wisconsinites have access to affordable broadband service and are able to engage in a digital society.

With work continuing for broadband expansion throughout Green County, further research indicated a need for digital equipment, i.e. laptops and other devices to connect people digitally. In partnership with other local groups, GCDC has launched the Green County Tech Connect program.

This program will bring refurbished computers and similar devices to eligible Green County residents and entities at no cost. All applicants must live or work in Green County. Low-income people participating or eligible for government assistance, individuals 60 and over, veterans, students, non-profit organizations, and businesses in existence less than one year may qualify.

Dan Williams, Green County Human Services Director had this to say about the program's value, "This program will empower low-income individuals to bridge the digital divide, providing them with the tools they need to apply for benefits, further their education, search for jobs, and ultimately help them achieve financial stability. This initiative not only enhances their access to opportunities but also helps them build the skills needed to thrive in an increasingly digital world."

Devices will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. An application must be completed and can be obtained by calling 608-328-9452 or emailing gcdc@greencountydevelopment.com. More information can also be found on GCDC's website at <https://greencountydevelopment.com/live-work/>. Every three months GCDC will follow up with awardees to ensure proper use of the device.

GCDC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization working for economic growth in Green County, while maintaining the quality of life that makes our community a great place to live and work.



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The world-renowned Glenn Miller Orchestra will make its fourth appearance at Turner Hall of Monroe on Thursday, April 10 at 7 p.m.

Harkening back to a time in Turner Hall of Monroe's history when dances were all the rage, the legendary Glenn Miller Orchestra will return to the Grand Hall stage for the fourth time on Thursday, April 10 at 7 p.m. During the 1940s and 50s, Turner Hall was synonymous with dancing, featuring big band groups such as Blue Barron, Eddy Howard, Art Kassel, Lawrence

Welk, Wayne King, Griff Williams, and Guy Lombardo. Although the Glenn Miller Orchestra never performed at Turner Hall during those big band years, the two do share a year of historical significance. Following a failed earlier attempt, 1938 was the year that the Glenn Miller Orchestra was successfully established, which is also the same year in which a "new" Turner Hall

of Monroe reopened following the original structure's demise by fire in 1936.

Although this is a concert performance and not a dance, those feeling the urge to dance can do so if space allows. Tickets, which are general seating and non-refundable, are \$30 through through Saturday, April 5, and can be purchased online through the Turner Hall web-

site at <http://turnerhallofmonroe.org/shs.html> or in person on Friday or Saturday evening at Turner Hall's Ratskeller Restaurant. Tickets at the door are \$35, with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. Before the concert, the Ratskeller Restaurant in Turner Hall's lower level will be open at 4:30 p.m. with a special menu; reservations are strongly advised by calling 608-325-3461. Located at 1217 17th Avenue, Monroe, two blocks south of Monroe's downtown Square near the Monroe Middle School, Turner Hall is also handicapped-accessible.

At the height of its popularity, the Glenn Miller Orchestra disbanded in 1942 when Miller volunteered for the Army, where he organized and led the famous Glenn Miller Army Air Force Band. On December 15, 1944, Major Miller took off in a single engine plane from Europe to precede his band to France, disappearing over the English Channel, never to be seen again. The Army declared him officially dead a year later. However, interest and popular demand fueled by the 1954 release of the film, The Glenn Miller Story, starring Jimmy Stewart and June Allyson, led the estate of Glenn Miller to authorize the reformation of the Glenn Miller Orchestra. On June 6, 1956, and under the direction of drummer Ray McKinley who had

become the unofficial leader of the Army Air Force Band after Miller's disappearance, the reincarnated Glenn Miller Orchestra performed its first concert and has been on the road ever since.

The orchestra has performed in all 50 states, as well as throughout Europe, Australia, Iceland, New Zealand, Guam, the Philippines, and South and Central Americas. All of its biggest hits are included in its regular programs, including its signature piece, Moonlight Serenade.

Although there are many German Turner Halls throughout the country, it is believed that Monroe's Turner Hall is the only one of Swiss origin left in the United States. The current building, a Swiss Emmentaler-style chalet designed by innovative German architect, Max Hanisch, has been listed on both the National and State Registers of Historic Places since 1982. Its authentically Old World interior houses many irreplaceable paintings and Swiss artifacts as well as exemplary examples of Bauernmalerei (Swiss folk painting.) A 501(c)(3) non-profit, the mission and governance of Turner Hall of Monroe is essentially the same today as it was in 1868.

