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Alger Delta Electric makes donation to Honor Flight

September 27, 2024



Courtesy photo In collaboration with CoBank and WPPI Energy, Alger Delta Electric made a \$5,000 donation to the U.P. Honor Flight. Shown in the picture at left are President of the UP Honor Flight Scott Knauf and Mike Furmanski, general manager of Alger Delta Electric Cooperative.

In collaboration with CoBank and WPPI Energy, Alger Delta Electric made a \$5,000 donation to the U.P. Honor Flight. Shown in the picture at left are President of the UP Honor Flight Scott Knauf and Mike Furmanski, general manager of Alger Delta Electric Cooperative.



Black River Falls, Banner Journal (1926-2005; & 2005-current)

BRFMU commission discusses latest on transformer failure and forebay gate project

By Garrett Aleckson

The Black River Falls Municipal Utility (BRFMU) Commission met for its regular meeting Monday, Aug. 26.

BRFMU general manager Casey Engebretson updated the commission on the German Hill substation transformer failure.

"We got word from our equipment insurer, and they made the determination that it was normal wear and tear that caused the transformer failure," said Engebretson. "Dave Krause, our electrical engineer, didn't completely agree with some of their findings. It is an older transformer, but some of the small points that their inspector came up with he didn't agree with. However, it would be tens of thousands of dollars to have that transformer torn down and de-tanked to find the root cause. We're still working on getting a price from our electrical engineer to get a crane and transport to bring that transformer up from Reedsburg. Then we'll work with Lunda to have the crane set up here so we can get ours out of the way and get the new one put in. I talked with them today and they said they're still waiting on a price from the transport company that would bring the new transformer up from Reedsburg."

"I said time is of the essence," Engebretson con-

tinued. "We put out another notice to conserve energy for today and tomorrow with this hot weather. We're trying to move this forward as fast as we can. Krause did say there might be a community out there that would be willing to buy our old transformer. It would be scrap price, but it's still something."

In additional business, Engebretson discussed the forebay project bid with the commission. BRFMU received just one bid for the project. The base bid was \$439,000.

"If we only have one bid, what are our options," asked commissioner Donald Matthews.

"Either accept the bid or reject it," said Engebretson.

"But we need the work done," Matthews replied. "So what are options for getting the work done?"

"It's not a safety issue," said Engebretson. "The last high-water event, the gate where we can't really operate it, they left it up and closed the other gates. The forebay level did come down. That was our main concern; to be able to shut that and not have it overflow over the wall. When we were talking about doing this about a year-and-a-half ago, we were talking about fixing concrete voids and then building new gates. We were told pricing was around \$200,000. Now, when we get

a bid, it comes out at over twice that."

"I was told what added extra was the crane rental, the insurance requirements and the warranty requirements," Engebretson continued. "I'm not so sure how much that would have added. They do have added risk, but our typical insurance requirements and the one-year warranty are pretty much industry standard, so I don't know how that could have added that much to the cost. The base bid included the concrete repairs and two new gates. I honestly think that is very high."

"What do we do if we have a failure of one of those gates," asked commissioner and BRF Mayor Jay Eddy. "We're going to have to have one manufactured aren't we?"

"That could be an option, if we wanted to get one gate out and get a gate in there that we could operate," said Engebretson.

"I'm just saying, do we want to have one or two gates on hand so, if something breaks, we don't have to deal with the time element," said Eddy. "Is that worth doing or not?"

"Kevin (LaValley, BRFMU electric operations superintendent) and I actually talked about just getting a gate to replace gate six, that we can at least operate it," said Engebretson.

"Our crew could put that in?" asked commissioner Jeff Amo.

"We might have to get a hold of Gaier or Lunda to get a crane to reach," said Engebretson.

The commission approved a motion to reject the bid for the \$439,000 project, but wanted to pursue additional options in the next meeting.

In other business, Engebretson updated the commission on street projects.

"Just a quick street project update," said Engebretson. "The stretch from the brewery around the corner on Buchanan over to South Fifth, they got everything put in last week. They did the pressure checks and then the safe water samples. Now, they're working on going back, and they'll have to change all of the water services over. They figure probably seven days or so for that."

BRFMU office manager Julie Babcock discussed the early draft of the 2025 budget with the commission.

"We've just gone over a few things for electric," said Babcock. "We included what we anticipated for capital purchases or what we anticipate for any large maintenance items coming up next year. And then we included any additional outside services we might have to hire for engineering or accounting

and whatnot. We're kind of throwing that stuff in there right now."

"A lot of year-to-year budgets include a lot of the same things because we have a lot of fixed costs," explained Engebretson. "Some of the other things that we incorporated this year, like for electric, one thing was the testing of the substations and relays. A lot of that is spawned from what we had to commit to in order to get insurance. That's projected at around \$30,000 just for that testing. For the water, we included some street projects. Next year should be slower for that. This year was a big year for street projects. We did include some engineering for the ongoing work with the new well."

"When you project this, I was just looking at the electric, it seems like we get a lot closer on our numbers for water and

sewer revenue than we do for electric," commented Eddy.

"The cold and the heat will change that a lot more than the sewer and water changes," said Babcock. "I do get a projection from [WPPI \(Wisconsin Public Power Inc.\)](#) as well, and I compare my projection with their projection. There have been some years where they're projecting \$500,000 more than what I'm projecting. I do the more conservative projections."

"I was just curious on how we compute that and if there's a way we get closer on that," said Eddy.

"It's so weather-dependent," said Babcock. "It swings based on the air conditioning and the heating."

BRFMU will continue to work on the 2025 budget, and the commission will review the 2025 budget in September.

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Visit www.bannerjournal.com.

Gerald Joseph Frank, 100

September 12, 2024

Gerald “Jerry” Joseph Frank of Cedarburg was born to Eternal Life on Sunday, September 1, 2024, at the age of 100. He was born to August and Marie (nee Bradley) Frank on August 19, 1924. Jerry married “the most beautiful woman he had ever seen” Nancy Sudbrink on March 31, 1951, at St. Francis Borgia Catholic Church in Cedarburg. They had a lifelong love and cherished raising their three children together.

Jerry was born and raised in Cedarburg and later graduated from Cedarburg High School. He enlisted in the US Navy as a 17-year-old leaving high school early to serve his country during WWII as a sonar operator on the USS J. Fred Talbott (DD-156) destroyer and USS Project (AM-278) minesweeper. Jerry was a proud member of Cedarburg American Legion, Peter Wollner Post 288.

He was a dedicated employee as a lineman for the Cedarburg Light and Water for 31 years and was often out in severe weather repairing downed power lines or water main breaks. Jerry served with pride as a volunteer Cedarburg Firefighter his whole adult life as an active and passive member answering many calls for service. He was very involved with fundraising at Cedarburg Firemen’s Park: countless stock cars races, County Fairs and Maxwell Street Days.

He was an avid hunter and fisherman. Jerry was a cherished founding member of the Pincherry hunting group, which gave him so many years of close friendship and enjoyment.

Jerry enjoyed boating, water skiing, golfing, and card games. He was an excellent Sheepshead player. Most of all, he enjoyed reading book after book. He was a dedicated Green Bay Packer fan through all their ups and downs.

Jerry had a wide network of wonderful friends in Cedarburg, and Ozaukee County. After his retirement his network of friends extended to Lake Arrowhead WI, and Fort Myers FL as snowbirds with Nancy. He was a soft-spoken, gracious man of strong Catholic faith. Jerry was an incredible father, grandfather and dear friend to many people.

Those left to cherish Jerry’s memory are his children: Mike (Geri) Frank of Nekoosa, Patti (Ron) Hofstad of Grafton and Tom (Mary) Frank of Ponte Vedra, FL. His grandchildren: Aaron (Eni Mimless) Hofstad, Carrie (Bryan Puglisi) Hofstad, Zachary (Nina) Frank, Rachael (Justin Otanicar) Frank, Alexander Frank, Natalie (Alexander) Witt, Jason Frank, Nicholas Frank and Cody Frank. He is further survived by his adored 6 great-grand daughters: Madison, Zuri, Mila, Olivia, Emma and Rosalie.

He was preceded in death by parents August and Marie (nee Bradley), sisters: Jeanette (Edmund Jr) Stecker, Rose Marie (Robert) Krause, Grace (Anthony) Bell. Jerry cherished his lifelong partner and wife of 73 years of marriage, Nancy (nee Sudbrink).

A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 2:00pm on Thursday, September 19, 2024, at St. Francis Borgia Catholic Church, 1375 Covered Bridge Rd, Cedarburg, WI 53012. The family will receive visitors at the church from 12:30 p.m. until the time of service. Mass will be followed by full military honors.

Special thank you to Lasata Care Center and Horizon Hospice for their loving care.

Memorials to the Cedarburg American Legion, Peter Wollner Post 288 are appreciated.

The Eernisse Funeral Home of Cedarburg is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences may be left at www.ernissefuneralhome.com.



Cedarburg, News Graphic

Electronic recycling event is Saturday

CEDARBURG — The Cedarburg Light & Water Utility will host a community appliance and electronic recycling event from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday at Firemen’s Park, W65N796 Washington Ave. All Ozaukee County residents are invited to attend.

There is no cost to dispose of computers, laptops, printers, scanners, DVD or VCR players, cell phones, keyboards, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, refrigerators, microwaves, washers and dryers, stoves, dishwashers, water heaters, car batteries, all wiring and cords and computer speak-

ers. Oil and gas must be removed from outdoor equipment before drop-off. There is a \$35 disposal fee for all TVs and a \$10 fee for all computer and all-in-one monitors. Payments must be made in cash. For a complete list of accepted items and other information, go

to www.cedarburglightand-water.org.

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Beaver Dam, Daily Citizen

Columbus woman dies following house fire

TERRI PEDERSON

tpederson@wiscnews.com

A Columbus woman has died from injuries she sustained in a house fire on Friday.

Kathleen Hamilton, 63, died Saturday, Columbus Police Chief Dennis Weiner said in a statement Sunday.

The Columbus Fire Department was sent to the home at 235 W. Harrison St. at 5:25 a.m., Deputy Fire Chief Jerrod Fox said. Two residents were found outside of the house when firefighters arrived.

Hamilton was taken to Prairie Ridge Hospital with life-threatening injuries and the flown by Medflight to UW Hospital in Madison, where she died the next day.

The other resident was treated at the scene, Fox said.

“The State Fire Marshall’s Office was called to the scene as part of the investigation,” Weiner said. “The findings indicated the fire started on the porch, but the specific

cause was deemed undetermined. Factors were identified on the porch that could have been the cause. Nothing suspicious was discovered and no foul play is suspected.”

Fire crews did an initial attack from the outside and then went inside to extinguish the rest of the fire, Fox said. The house sustained substantial damage.

The following agencies assisted the Columbus Fire Department: Lifestar EMS, Columbus Police Department, Columbia County Sheriff’s Office, Columbia County Emergency Management, Columbus Department of Public Works, Columbus Utilities, state Fire Marshal’s Office, WE Energies, Salvation Army, Rio EMS and Beaver Dam, Waterloo, Doylestown, Fall River, Randolph, CLR and Juneau fire departments.

Follow Terri Pederson on Twitter @tlp53916 or call 920-356-6760



COLUMBUS FIRE DEPARTMENT

A woman died of injuries she suffered in a Friday morning fire at 235 W. Harrison St., Columbus.

ENERGY NEWS

Consumer Information

FLORANCE UTILITIES

A WPPI ENERGY COMMUNITY

SEPTEMBER 2024 HYDRANT FLUSHING

[Florence Utilities](#) will flush water mains as needed on Thursday, October 10 from 11 p.m. to Friday October 11 at 7 a.m. To flush the water mains, our staff opens fire hydrant valves to allow water to flow through the pipes. Systematically opening the hydrants enhances water quality by flushing sediment from the main pipelines, verifies the proper operation of hydrants and valves, and ensures that the hydrant is operational in an emergency. During these periods, you may experience fluctuating water pressure and water may be discolored. We recommend you avoid washing clothes during this time. If you do, please check your water for discoloration prior to washing any clothes. Hydrant flushing scrubs the distribution system and it may temporarily result in discolored or rusty water. This means the hydrant flushing is working. Under normal circumstances, the flushing route is carefully planned to control the direction of water. When a hydrant is opened, there may be a temporary episode of discolored water while fine sediment particles are flushed from the system. There is no health hazard associated with the discolored water. If you see discolored water, run the cold water for a few minutes, allowing new water to work its way into your pipes. Avoid washing laundry until water runs clear. If you experience any problems with water quality or pressure after a hydrant flushing, please contact [Florence Utilities](#) at 715-528-3330.

HEATING ASSISTANCE

The Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) provides

assistance for heating costs, electric costs, and energy crisis situations. Operating with federal and state funding, the program provides assistance to approximately 225,000 Wisconsin households annually. Most types of fuel are eligible to receive assistance. Whether you use wood, propane, natural gas, electricity or fuel oil to heat your home, energy assistance is available if you qualify. Contact the Florence County Human Services Department at 715-528-3478 to schedule an appointment to determine if you are eligible for financial assistance through Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP). For more information regarding the program see <http://homeenergyplus.wi.gov>.

BUDGET BILLING

It is not too late to consider enrolling in the budget plan for payment of your utility services for the coming year (September through August). If you would like more information, or are interested in budget billing, please call our office at 715-528-3330.

CALL 811

Call 811 at least three working days before you start any digging project. Whether you are planning to do it yourself or hire a professional, smart digging means calling 811 before each job. It is free – and it is the law.

NATURAL GAS LEAK DETECTION

Natural gas is colorless and odorless. That is the reason utility companies add an odorant with an unpleasant smell to natural gas to help alert you in the event of a gas leak. The unintentional release of gas is potentially dangerous to the public and could cause fires,

explosions, injury, and even death. A gas leak or damaged pipeline is indicated by the following signs: a 'rotten egg' odor; a blowing or hissing sound from the ground; dirt blowing into the air or water bubbling; or vegetation turning brown over natural gas facilities. If you observe the above conditions, move to a safe location and call [Florence Utilities](#) immediately at 715-528-3330 or dial 9-1-1.

PHANTOMS REVEALED

Did you know you may have phantoms in your home? Not the ghosts you see in movies and during Halloween, but energy phantoms. A phantom load is any device that consumes electricity when turned off but still plugged into an outlet. These electronic devices provide the modern-day conveniences we rely on, but they also waste energy and cost money. The U.S. Department of Energy says on average, 75 percent of the electricity used to power home electronics is consumed while the products are turned off.

Finding the phantoms: To find the phantoms lurking in your home, take a closer look at your appliances. Phantom loads can be found in almost every room of a home, though a common spot is the entertainment center.

When the television is turned off, it isn't really off. It's sitting there, waiting for someone to press the on button of the remote, and waiting uses energy. TVs also use energy to remember channel line-ups, language preferences and the time. DVD players, DVRs, video game consoles, cable or satellite boxes and stereos also use energy when turned off.

Home office equipment such as desktop computers, monitors, printers and anything with a digital display such as microwaves and coffee machines are also working against your electric bill. Many of those chargers around the house

that keep cell phones, laptops and power tools at the ready constantly draw power when plugged in.

Banish your phantoms: The best way to get rid of your phantom load is to unplug appliances and electronic devices every night or when not in use, but that isn't convenient or easy to remember. And some devices need to stay on in a standby mode to work properly. Here are some additional ideas on how to reduce your phantoms:

- Group appliances and electronics together on power strips and switch on only when needed. However, be careful not to overload your power strip.
- Unplug unneeded night lights.
- Screen savers do not reduce energy use by monitors; automatic switching to sleep mode or manually turning monitors off is a better energy-saving strategy.
- Turn off your computer when not in use for 20 minutes or more and both the computer and monitor if away for two hours or more.
- Unplug battery chargers when the batteries are fully charged or the chargers are not in use.
- Buy ENERGY STAR equipment, in which standby power use may be lower than one watt.
- Purchase and use "smart strips". Smart strips are advanced power strips that allow you to plug an appliance into a master outlet, which controls the other outlets. For example, you can plug your computer into the master outlet, and plug speakers, printers and monitors into "automatic" outlets on the strip. When you turn off your computer (master outlet) all the appliances plugged into the "automatic" outlets will turn off as well. Smart strips usually also have one or two "constant" outlets, which allow for appliances plugged into those to always stay on unless manually turned off. Source: www.takecontrolandsave.coop

Sep 26

2024

Page 004

Clip resized 56%

Title: Fun at the Farmer's Market

Author: JOHN KLOTZBACH E

Size : 97 Inches Sq Independence,IA Circulation: 2029

Keywords: Independence Light & Power, Telecommunications



Fun at the Farmer's Market

BY JOHN KLOTZBACH
EDITOR

INDEPENDENCE – The Independence Farmer's Market has been alive with music, food, and special events.

- Sept 14: Blue Tone Jazz Collective performed the final Second Saturday Series of the season. The Second Saturday Series is sponsored by LACES (Promoting the Arts to Enrich Life).

- Sept. 21 LACES and the Farmer's Market Vendors sponsored more live music featuring the Brass Blast Brass Band. The 21st was

See **MARKET**, page A14

also Apple Day. There was fresh-pressed apple cider, an old-fashion apple peeler, and an apple tower challenge.

- Coming Saturday, Sept. 28 the market will be celebrating Wellness Day. In addition Inde-

pendence Light & Power, Telecommunications will have games, giveaways, and bucket truck rides.

The final Independence Farmer's Market will be Saturday, October 12. Watch the Independence Farmers Market Facebook page for end of the season events.



JOHN KLOTZBACH PHOTO

Blue Tone Jazz Collective playing at the September 14 Farmer's Market.



MARKET, continued
from A1

Title: Fun at the Farmer's Market

Author: JOHN KLOTZBACH E

Size : 97 Inches Sq Independence, IA Circulation: 2029

Keywords: Independence Light & Power, Telecommunications



JOHN KLOTZBACH PHOTO

Brass Blast Brass Band playing at the September 21 Farmer's Market.

Title: Fun at the Farmer's Market

Author: JOHN KLOTZBACH E

Size : 97 Inches Sq Independence, IA Circulation: 2029

Keywords: Independence Light & Power, Telecommunications



JOHN KLOTZBACH PHOTO

A new entrepreneur at the market.



Fun with apples at the September 21 Farmer's Market. People could help press apples, have a cup of cider, create apple peel swirls (for human or canine consumption), or build a tower with small apple bags.



Sep 10 2024 Page A12 Clip resized 53%

2024 Gemuetlichkeit Days

Gemuetlichkeit Days

JEFFERSON, WI

Jefferson Fair Park 503 N. Jackson Ave.

SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2024

GDAYS.ORG

Gemuetlichkeit Days is a community festival to build spirit and unity by celebrating our community's German heritage in a family-friendly atmosphere. This year's theme is Lindenwurzeln, Festfreude, Gemeinschaftsgeist! "Linden Roots, Festival Joy, Spirit of Community!"

Friday, September 6th

"Find the Mecki" Contest Begins

Location: Downtown Jefferson

The Mecki is a 3.5-4 inch hedgehog-like doll in German attire, hidden within the Jefferson area in a public place. Clues to finding the Mecki will be posted daily after the start of the contest around 3:00 p.m. each day. The clues will be published daily on the Gemuetlichkeit Facebook and website pages and at the Jefferson Public Library after 3:00 p.m. The finder must take the Mecki to the Jefferson County Library and a \$100 cash prize including the doll will be awarded!

Sunday, September 8th

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Annual Gemuetlichkeit Days Trap Shoot

Location: Jefferson Sportsmen's Club
Address: W5328 Christberg Road, Jefferson.
Phone: 920-699-3968

DURING THE WEEK

Window Decorating Contest

Location: Downtown Jefferson

Nagelspielen | Available the Entire Weekend

Location: The Black Forest Garten
Purchase nails at the Souvenir counter.

Friday, September 13th

5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. | "Kick Off" Mike Schneider

Location: The Black Forest Garten

6 p.m. | Ceremonial Program

Location: The Black Forest Garten
Welcome by Judy Wolin, President of Gemuetlichkeit Days. Introduction of our King & Queen, Honorary Proclamation by Senator Steve Nass.

6:30 p.m. | Ceremonial tapping of the first keg

Location: The Black Forest Garten

6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. | Freistadt Alte Kameraden Band

Location: The Black Forest Garten

7 p.m. | Flag Raising Ceremony

Location: Outside, East of the Activity Center

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. | Mike Schneider

Location: The Linden Bier Garten

8 p.m. | Presentation of Kings and Queens

Location: The Black Forest Garten

Saturday, September 14th

FREE ADMISSION FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM

Face Painting, Throughout the Day

9 a.m. | Randy Schopen Foundation Pretzel Polka Run, Walk, Zero K

For more information or to pre-register, visit:
www.randshopenfoundation.org/run

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Paul Imholte

Location: Throughout the Grounds
Paul Imholte will be strolling through the grounds, entertaining visitors with his music.

9:30 a.m. | Ethnic Costume Contest

Location: The Black Forest Garten
Registration: 9:15 a.m. in the Linden Garten.
Age categories: 0 to 2, 3 to 5, and 6 to 12 years old.
Costume contest for both Homemade and Authentic costumes. Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd & Honorable Mention in each category.

10 a.m. | Vintage Car Show

Location: The Infield Area
Participant ribbons to the first 25 entries. Four trophies awarded: King's Choice, Queen's Choice, President's Choice and People's Choice.
Contact: Mike Spangler 920-988-3256

10 a.m. | Euchre Tournament

Location: The Linden Bier Garten
Registration: 9:00 a.m., with play to begin at 10:00 a.m.
SHARP! Trophies & prize money for 1st place with prize money to the rest as determined by number of participants.
Registration Fee: \$2 is required. Must be over 18 to participate.

10:45 a.m. | Little Tykes/Big Wheel Races

Location: Look for Signs
Age groups for Little Tykes: 18-23 months, 24-29 months, 30-35 months, 36-41 months, 42-47 months
Age groups for Big Wheels: 3-4, 5-6, and 7-8
Organized and run by the Jefferson Optimist Club

11 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Paul Imholte

Location: The Black Forest Garten

11:30 a.m. | Children's Stein Carrying Contest

Registration: 10:45 a.m.
Outside, weather permitting

12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Keith Genneman Band

Location: The Black Forest Garten

1:30 p.m. | Schafskopf Card Tournament

Location: The Linden Bier Garten
Registration: 1:00 p.m., play begins at 1:30 p.m.

4 p.m. - 7 p.m. | Tom Brusky Band

Location: The Black Forest Garten

Saturday, September 14th

7 p.m. | Sauerkraut Eating Contest - Men and Women

Location: Black Forest Garten

7:30 p.m. - 11 p.m. | Music Connection

Location: The Black Forest Garten

7:30 p.m. - 11 p.m. | Foo Foo Dolls

Location: The Linden Bier Garten

8:30 p.m. | Masskrugstemmen (Beer Stein Holding)

Contest
Location: The Black Forest Garten

Sunday, September 15th

Face Painting, Following the Parade

Location: Jefferson Rotary Park

12 p.m. | 53rd Gemuetlichkeit Days Parade

Location: Downtown Jefferson
Floral Donation for King, Queen, President
By Wine and Roses

Jefferson Rotary Park, Following the Parade

Location: Jefferson Rotary Park

2 p.m. - 5 p.m. | Copper Box

Location: The Jefferson Rotary Park Stage

4 p.m. | Grand Prize Drawing

5 p.m. | Final Ein Prosit!!!

BUTTON FOR ADMISSION: \$15.00 IN ADVANCE OR AT THE GATE

THE BUTTON IS ADMISSION FOR THE WHOLE WEEKEND

AGES 16 & UNDER ARE FREE

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Please visit our website
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Thank you for attending our event!

Maquoketa council approves solar energy projects

By LESLIE JACOBSEN Staff Writer | Sep 10, 2024

Hoping to realize net benefits in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, Maquoketa City Council unanimously voted to give the green light to two solar energy projects at city properties on Aug. 19: the municipal airport and water plant.

According to City Manager Josh Boldt, the city of Maquoketa and MMEU have access to a \$500,000 Wisconsin Public Power Inc. (WPPI) energy loan credit that can be used to improve energy infrastructure as needed.

The airport project will include two solar array systems, consolidation of four separate airport meters into two, and any electric upgrades as required.

The work will be performed by Eagle Point Solar for \$40,700.

The estimated 30-year savings value of the solar addition is \$116,225, plus an expected savings of \$25,200 over 30 years from the meter consolidation due to meter minimum charges. The anticipated net benefit to the Airport Fund over 30 years is \$141,425.

A similar, slightly larger project will be undertaken at the water plant.

Blue Sky Solar will install two solar arrays, with a cost of \$91,441.

The estimated 30-year savings for that project is \$303,605.

Decker Street conveyance

During the public hearing portion of the meeting, Bill Schwenker voiced his concerns about the easement included in the proposed resolution to vacate and convey a portion of North Decker Street from the city to the Maquoketa Community School District in conjunction with the district's upcoming construction of an addition at Briggs Elementary School.

Schwenker resides at 316 N. Decker St., adjacent to the North Decker Street property intended to be given to the district.

His main concerns was whether the easement indicated in the resolution would extend from west Apple Street as far as his driveway on North Decker Street, and whether his home would be able to retain its address of 316 N. Decker St.

After listening to Schwenker's concerns, the council ultimately decided to table the resolution until Schwenker could have further conversations with Maquoketa Community School District Superintendent Tara Notz and

Maquoketa City Manager Josh Boldt. (In a separate meeting, the council approved the conveyance of property to the school district.)

In other council business, the council approved the following items:

- Resolution approving increases to city fees and fines. The updated fees are available for viewing on the city's website, www.maquoketaia.com, on the Building Permits page.
- Resolution approving a change order for the wastewater treatment plant project, an increase in the amount of \$39,555.99.
- Resolution approving a change order for the Facade East Project in the amount of \$12,106.06, related to improvements at 110 S. Olive St. (formerly Perxactly's, soon to be Blacksmith). Most of the cost is to reconcile actual hours spent on the project.
- Resolution approving a change order for the east water tower recoating project, an increase in the amount of \$8,500. The change order covers the furnishing and installation of new brackets on the existing access ladder, to hold cables for the various antennae on the tower, as a safety precaution.
- Resolution approving settlement agreement and mutual release with Stephen Nebel d/b/a Aerial Precision & Ag Air, LC. In lieu of unpaid city services related to Aerial Precision's operations at the municipal airport, totaling \$21,044.68, the city will settle for \$15,000 to resolve the dispute. The Airport Commission had reviewed the settlement and recommended it for approval.

George Arndt

August 12, 1946 – September 15, 2024

Obituaries | September 19, 2024



It is with great sadness that the family of George W. Arndt announces his passing on Sunday September 15th, at his home in Neillsville.

He was the first born to Clyde & Juanita Arndt on 8/12/1946. George graduated high school in Menasha, WI in 1964. He went on to serve his country in the Navy on the CVA-60... USS Saratoga. He was honorably discharged and returned home where he met and married the love of his life, Dawn Marie Arndt.

During their 57 years of marriage, they had two children, Joey D Arndt (Laura) of Stevens Point WI and Jolie H Tlusty (Mark Tlusty Jr.) of Neillsville WI. George's heart was so big he gained another daughter Erickah C Cashell of Neillsville, WI and son Chad A French (Terri) of Shiocton, WI.

After 27 years of service with the **Menasha Utilities**, George & Dawn moved to Neillsville. George was not the type to settle down, working an additional 5 years for the Clark County Court House.

George loved fishing, hunting, and his dogs. He especially enjoyed telling jokes and old stories while having some cold ones with his family and friends.

He is further survived by his two grandchildren, David Van Linn and Mercedes Quandt, great granddaughter Meadow Quandt-Sternal, his brother, Bill Arndt (Gina) & their children, Heidi Arndt Marks & Haley Arndt.

He will be missed dearly by his wife Dawn, his children Joey, Jolie, & Erickah, his son - in- law and best friend Mark Tlusty Jr., Mark's sons Shawn and Paul Tlusty, and their families.

A Celebration of George's life will be held at the home of Mark Jr and Jolie Tlusty (W7667 South Mound Road, Neillsville) on Saturday October 19th beginning at 2PM.

Online Condolences may be made at www.gescheFH.com.

The Gesche Funeral Home is assisting George's family with funeral arrangements.

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Mid-Term Classes Start October 14

Staff for Bus will record this year

YOUR AD HERE

CLEARANCE SALE

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The village made a donation from a WPPJ fund to the Stuff the Bus event. On hand for a photos were Lions President Rick Post, Project Chair Joe Kolman, Sara Johnson from Riverdale Schools Sara Johnson and Cinda Johnson for the Village of Muscoda.



The Lions Club made a \$500 donation to Riverdale Lunch Program. Seen in photo is Lions President Rick Post, Project Chair Joe Kolman and Sara Johnson from Riverdale Schools.

Stuff the Bus sets record this year

The recent Stuff The Bus event conducted by the Avoca-Blue River -Muscoda Lions set a record this year in school supporting donations. Riverdale students will be able to benefit throughout the year from the project.

Channel 3 reported in July that the parents of a typical 3rd grader will spend more than \$150 per student this year. As the student advances through the grades the amount of course increases, the Riverdale District itself contains more than 650 students. According to a national survey, teachers often buy more than \$500 of supplies with their money.

Project Chair Joe Kolman estimated almost \$2,800 in supplies and monetary donations was given to the annual project. Besides from the event on main street other donations were received. The village made a donation from a WPPJ fund and the Copper Lounge held a 50/50 raffle during their Food Truck Fest. All of the activities help set the record amount. The Lions appreciate all who donated in helping out the students.

The Lions also made a \$500 donation to the Riverdale Lunch Program to help out with food security for the students. Proceeds from the July RibFest made this possible.

The motto of the Lions is We Serve and these events allow the Lions to give back to our communities.



Riverdale School Board September meeting held

By **JEFF CAMPBELL**
District Administrator

The Riverdale School Board met on Monday, September 9 in the RES Library. Below is a summary of the actions taken. The next school board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 14 at 6:00 in the RES Library.

Reports

College and Career Coordinator Tanner Williamson gave an update on the progress of the dual credit program and youth apprenticeship programs at Riverdale. Sarah Ploeckelman gave an overview of the Redefining Ready report card from the 2023-2024 school year.

New Teachers

The new teaching staff introduced themselves before the school board. Each person discussed their previous teaching and work experience and family background. The new staff includes Carrie Pope, Megan Swiggum, Stacy Sosinsky, Pete Wagner, Sara Droessler and Natasha Young.

Budget Update

Jeff Campbell gave a budget update for the 23-24 school year which saw the district come out with a \$20,000 surplus which will be put into the general fund. The Fund Balance is strong sitting at 3.7 million with a goal to keep it at 30% of the general budget, which would be 3.3 million. Early predictions indicate the district running in a \$450,000 deficit this school year due to the elimination of ESSER funding and a lack of school funding keeping up with the cost of inflation. A more exact budget number will come following the third Friday count and when state funding numbers are finalized in October.

Updates

Jeff Campbell will be visiting municipalities over the next couple of months to introduce himself and give a general overview of the district. A report was given on the current numbers of the football program and the options that exist for 8 or 11 man football for the future. River-

dale will stay 11 man through the next two year cycle. ACT 95 was introduced which allows the top 5% of students in the graduating class admission into UW Madison and the top 10% admission into any other university in the Wisconsin System. The Annual Meeting agenda was approved and the meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 23 starting at 7:00 in the RES Library.

New Hires

The board approved Ashley Vale as a 5.5 hour paraprofessional, Brandi Coggen and Erika Thayer as full time paraprofessionals. Jen Mau was approved as an assistant track coach. Winter Reynolds was approved as a cook. A new student organization called HOSA, Health Occupations Students of America was approved with Dawn Jewell and Matt Wermich serving as co-advisors.

School Update

Sarah Ploeckelman reported on the success of the RES Open House. She also gave

an update on Elementary enrollment numbers which currently stand at 336 students. Larry Swiggum and Jen Mau welcomed students back for their first Riverdale Way assembly of the year. Every minute matters is alive and well in the Elementary classrooms and on the playground.

Sarah Gruen gave an update on Homecoming Week activities for JH/HS. Fall sports participation numbers were shared with the school board. Open House was a success with a constant flow of students filing into the building throughout the evening. Online registration has been efficient this school year with only one student in the high school and junior high yet to register.

Donations

The Simonson family and Community First Bank donated towards the purchase of school supplies. Muscoda Utilities gave a donation towards the school lunch program.

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UPCOMING EVENT

NH event to celebrate Power Week

Public Power Week will be celebrated by **New Holstein Utilities** with an event scheduled for next Tuesday, Sept. 24 from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Utilities Service Garage, 1821 Roosevelt Ave.

Activities are scheduled to include a meet and greet with electric and water experts to get questions answered; bucket truck demonstrations and hands-on experiences; snacks for all attendees; activities for kids including temporary tattoos; complimentary gift bags while supplies last; and additional giveaways including footballs, jar openers, grocery totes, pizza cutters and more.

A food drive also will be conducted. Donate three or more items to the drive to enter a drawing for a \$50 bill credit (multiple winners).

2 New Holstein schools evacuated for reported smell of smoke

Published on Sep 19, 2024

New Holstein High School and the attached New Holstein Middle School were evacuated Thursday morning, Sept. 19 for a reported smell of smoke and a slight haze in at least a portion of the building.

Firefighters were joined by **New Holstein Utilities** workers and school personnel in attempting to find the source of the smell.

Students and staff sat or stood on the grass outside the schools on the warm, sunny day, waiting to get the go-ahead to return to the buildings. Students were still outside as of 11 a.m.

Medical personnel treated one individual who was having an undisclosed minor medical condition while standing outside the Middle School.



Kiel, Tri-County News

ENVIRONMENT

Electronics recycling in NH Oct. 3

New Holstein Utilities is planning its annual fall electronics recycling event for next Thursday, Oct. 3 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the **New Holstein Utilities** Garage, 1819 Park Ave.

Residents can bring in electronics, light bulbs (incandescent, fluorescents, HID and LEP lamps), non-PCB ballasts, batteries, televisions, dehumidifiers, window air conditioners, all sizes of refrigerators as well as multiple other types of elec-

tronics. Go to **New** Holstein Utilities' website for more details on what can be brought in and what the costs will be for each item. Many items are collected at no cost.

Large quantities of fluorescent lamps (more than 12) should be placed in their original boxes, the end of the boxes taped and the number of lamps inside the box should be written on the outside.

Electronics recycling in New Holstein October 3

Published on Sep 30, 2024

New Holstein Utilities is planning its annual fall electronics recycling event for next Thursday, Oct. 3 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the New Holstein Utilities Garage, 1819 Park Ave.

Residents can bring in electronics, light bulbs (incandescent, fluorescents, HID and LEP lamps), non-PCB ballasts, batteries, televisions, dehumidifiers, window air conditioners, all sizes of refrigerators as well as multiple other types of electronics. Go to New Holstein Utilities' website for more details on what can be brought in and what the costs will be for each item. Many items are collected at no cost.

Large quantities of fluorescent lamps (more than 12) should be placed in their original boxes, the end of the boxes taped and the number of lamps inside the box should be written on the outside.

William Lammers Obituary



By Bill Harpold | Sep 30, 2024

William "Bill" Dean Lammers of Plymouth, Wisconsin passed away peacefully at Lakehouse Sheboygan on September 27, 2024.

He was born in October 19, 1929 to Doris (Knowles) and Aaron Lammers. Bill met the love of his life, Joanne Laack at Plymouth High School, where their lockers were side by side. Excited to start their new life together, the two were married in Plymouth 74 years ago on June 24th. Bill and Joanne are well-travelled as they've explored on trips to Europe and any good island that had golf. They lived in Wisconsin – Plymouth, Beloit, Burlington, and Milwaukee. They spent seasonal stays at their home in Hot Springs Village, Arkansas. They enjoyed winter living in the beach towns around the Florida panhandle and summers in Door County.

Bill worked at Milwaukee Railroad as a telegraph operator straight out of training. He worked there for ten years and later on worked at Sanfax-Oxford Chemicals selling industrial chemical for years.

Bill and his wife loved their years of spending time with friends at shows of Peninsula Players, enjoyed playing golf, volunteered at a few professional golf tournaments in Kohler, WI. They were probably the longest holder of annual golf membership at Quit Qui Oc Golf Club. He devoted time and actively participated in activities for Salem United Church of Christ, was a participant in the choir and enjoyed spending time with church and his community members. Bill was a member of the **Plymouth Utilities Commission** for 15 years. He also served on the Plymouth City Council.

Bill was preceded in death by his eldest son, Jeff who passed away in 2016, and his parents Doris & Aaron Lammers.

He is survived by his loving wife, Joanne, son Bruce (Isabel) of Chicago, IL, brother Art (Janet) of Plymouth, WI, daughter-in-law Susan of Appleton, WI; grandchildren: Julia, Michael, Anna, Gabby, Amy, John, Erin and Kim. He is further survived by nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

A memorial service to celebrate Bill's life will be held at Suchon Funeral Home, 1317 State Rd 67, Plymouth, WI on October 19th (Saturday), at 11:30 AM. Rev. James Hoppert, Pastor of Salem UCC will officiate. Visitation will be held on Saturday from 10:00AM until the time of service at 11:30 AM.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are appreciated in William D. Lammers' name for Lakeland University and Plymouth High School Scholarship Fund.

Bill's family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude for the compassionate care given by the staff of Lakehouse Sheboygan and to the Sharon S. Richardson Hospice. For online condolences and additional information please visit suchonfh.com.

Stoughton Utilities RoundUP program donates to local organizations

Published on Sep 19, 2024



Brandi Yungen (left) of Stoughton Utilities presents Knox, one of the therapy horses at Three Gaits, Inc., and Jolie Hope, Executive Director of Three Gaits, Inc., with a \$500 donation from the utility's RoundUP program.

Photo submitted

Stoughton Utilities recently donated \$500 to Three Gaits, Inc. and \$500 to Stoughton Aqua Racers as part of Stoughton Utilities' RoundUP program, a voluntary program that "rounds up" customers' utility bills to the next whole dollar. All proceeds are distributed to local non-profit community organizations.

Three Gaits provides equine-assisted activities and therapy to enhance the lives of people with physical, emotional, or intellectual challenges. RoundUP funds will be used to purchase outdoor tables and chairs that will allow program participants to engage in nature-based activities in an outdoor setting. Seating will also provide a place for loved ones and caregivers to observe participants during sessions.

STAR is a swim club for swimmers of all ages and abilities in the Stoughton area. Funds will be used for practice equipment including swim fins, kickboards, and pull buoys. Equipment will be available at the Stoughton High School for all community swimmers to use.

Contact editor Scott De Laruelle at sdelaruelle@orourkemediagroup.com



Sun Prairie, The Star

Sun Prairie Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department hosts “The Eras Encore” tribute band

The Eras Encore tribute band is bringing their high-energy, fan-favorite performance at Sheehan Park Central (945 Linnerud Drive, Sun Prairie) on Friday, Sept. 27.

This is a rescheduled from the concert’s previously set date at the end of August. The event was rescheduled due to a heat advisory. The Parks, Recreation & Forestry

Department continues to work closely with Public Safety to monitor weather conditions for this Friday. Food and beverage vending, and activity booths led by local

organizations will begin at 5pm. The Eras Encore will take the stage at 6pm. Whether you’re a die-hard Swiftie or new to Taylor Swift, this concert promises an unforgettable night of chart-topping hits and heartfelt ballads.

The Eras Encore is composed of 6 Madison-area women who have all served as instructors at Girls Rock Camp Madison, a week-long summer day camp for girls, transgender and gender non-conforming youth that focuses on building positive self-esteem through music. They boast decades of performance experience with local bands.

This is a free, public concert. Donations to the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department are encouraged to support the Scholarship Program that provides barrier-free access to recreation programming.

Fans are encouraged to dress in their best

Taylor Swift-inspired outfits and join in the fun with themed activities and exclusive merchandise available at the venue. Whether you’re dancing to “Shake It Off” or swaying to “All Too Well,” The Eras Encore offers an immersive concert experience that celebrates the joy and connection found in Taylor Swift’s music.

“The Sun Prairie Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department is so excited to host one of our largest events of the year — an evening of Taylor Swift-inspired fun in Sheehan Park!” said Kristin Grissom, Director of Parks, Recreation & Forestry. “We are appreciative of the support and collaboration from our event partners to bring this event to our community.”

Per public safety’s recommendation, Linnerud Drive will be closed from Walker Way to Bird Street from 3-9 p.m. There will be free parking available

at the Family Aquatic Center, the Sun Prairie School District Building and the Youth Baseball Complex. A free shuttle will run from the Family Aquatic Center and the Youth Baseball Complex to Sheehan Park Central on a continuous loop before, during and after the concert. Thank you so much to Kobussen Buses for being the concert’s transportation partner.

Thank you to concert sponsors: Bank of Sun Prairie, Forever Home Real Estate, Josh Erickson Agency LLC — American Family Insurance, Sun Prairie Utilities, the Sun Prairie Public Library Foundation, Sun Prairie Moves, Eddie’s Alehouse & Eatery, and Andy Eyers, State Farm Agent.

For more information and event updates, go to <https://cityofsunprairie.com/1611/> Concerts-in-the-Park or follow Sun Prairie Parks, Recreation and Forestry on Facebook.

BUDGET PUBLICATION - 2024 - 2025
Required Published Budget Summary Format

A budget summary, notice of the place where the budget in detail may be examined, the time and place for a public hearing on the budget must be published or distributed under s. 65.90. The required minimum detail for the published summary is as follows:

GENERAL FUND	Audited 2022 - 2023	Unaudited 2023 - 2024	Budget 2024 - 2025
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 26,621,833.21	\$ 31,668,429.74	\$ 33,557,337.34
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 31,668,429.74	\$ 33,557,337.34	\$ 29,811,635.34
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Transfers-In (Source 100)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Local Sources (Source 200)	\$ 56,987,035.94	\$ 58,238,972.25	\$ 55,517,435.00
Inter-district Payments (Source 300 + 400)	\$ 2,860,482.99	\$ 3,172,406.82	\$ 3,275,000.00
Intermediate Sources (Source 500)	\$ 46,646.93	\$ 76,882.72	\$ -
State Sources (Source 600)	\$ 64,170,806.52	\$ 66,132,509.35	\$ 70,360,513.00
Federal Sources (Source 700)	\$ 5,958,931.59	\$ 5,342,455.65	\$ 2,118,090.00
All Other Sources (Source 800 + 900)	\$ 624,721.29	\$ 469,207.10	\$ 380,000.00
TOTAL REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	\$ 130,648,625.26	\$ 133,432,433.89	\$ 131,651,038.00
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES			
Instruction (Function 100 000)	\$ 51,915,348.55	\$ 55,369,719.68	\$ 59,765,488.00
Support Services (Function 200 000)	\$ 47,480,714.94	\$ 51,776,786.45	\$ 53,317,996.00
Non-Program Transactions (Function 400 000)	\$ 26,205,965.24	\$ 24,397,020.16	\$ 22,313,256.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	\$ 125,602,028.73	\$ 131,543,526.29	\$ 135,396,740.00

SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND	Audited 2022 - 2023	Unaudited 2023 - 2024	Budget 2024 - 2025
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 916,310.91	\$ 922,097.11	\$ 921,941.28
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 922,097.11	\$ 921,941.28	\$ 921,941.28
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	\$ 23,184,569.81	\$ 24,859,200.86	\$ 25,378,975.00
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	\$ 23,178,783.61	\$ 24,859,356.69	\$ 25,378,975.00

DEBT SERVICE FUND	Audited 2022 - 2023	Unaudited 2023 - 2024	Budget 2024 - 2025
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 14,697,693.56	\$ 14,967,506.38	\$ 15,412,007.09
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 14,967,506.38	\$ 15,412,007.09	\$ 9,334,661.09
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	\$ 22,994,899.97	\$ 23,859,065.72	\$ 24,581,922.00
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES	\$ 22,725,087.15	\$ 23,414,565.01	\$ 30,659,268.00

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	Audited 2022 - 2023	Unaudited 2023 - 2024	Budget 2024 - 2025
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 20,924,636.46	\$ 19,702,060.74	\$ 14,551,350.00

Sun Prairie Chamber of Commerce announces 2025 Leadership Class

IB Staff | September 25, 2024

The Sun Prairie Chamber of Commerce announced the selection of its Leadership Class of 2025, a group of emerging leaders committed to making a positive impact in the community. This year's class brings together professionals from various sectors, including education, finance, health/wellness, government, and nonprofit organizations.

The Leadership Class of 2025 is composed of 18 participants who will engage in a comprehensive program — which includes learning experiences, mentorship, and personal growth initiatives — to gain the skills, values, and perspectives that empower them to make a meaningful difference in their organizations and communities.

Participants of the Leadership Class of 2025 include:

- Alyse Peters, events & sponsorship coordinator, city of Sun Prairie Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department;
- Becky Binz, housing & equitable development planner, city of Sun Prairie Planning Department;
- Becky Templeton, director, Shelter From The Storm Ministries;
- Caitlin Timms, senior universal banker, Capitol Bank;
- Cody Conrad, accountant, [Sun Prairie Utilities](#);
- Cora Seibt, communications coordinator, [Sun Prairie Utilities](#);
- Corey Marionneaux, CEO, Black Men Coalition Foundation;
- Chelsea Peterson, education, optimization, & support associate analyst, UW Health;
- Hector Solis, senior banker, Bank of Sun Prairie;
- Holly Pohl, recreation supervisor, city of Sun Prairie Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department;
- Jared Hutterer, lead physical therapist, Paramount Performance & Physical Therapy;
- Jennilyn DiPiazza, assistant vice president branch manager, Johnson Financial Group;
- Kayla Stroud-DuSavage, owner/operator, Specific Health Massage Therapy LLC;
- Lisa Smith, CEO, Girl Scouts of Wisconsin–Badgerland;

- Marly Owens, Food for Kids coordinator, Sunshine Place;
- Michelle Garrison, business manager, city of Sun Prairie Police Department;
- Peter Woreck, director of facilities & grounds, Sun Prairie Area School District; and
- Ria Hull, Planner, city of Sun Prairie Planning Department.