

# Brodhead Independent Register

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SHOPPING NEWS

917 W. EXCHANGE STREET, BRODHEAD, WI 53520

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15, 2021

FREE TAKE ONE

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## Brodhead girls earn top spot at home invite



BECKY MALKOW Brodhead Independent-Register

The host Lady Cardinals took first place in the gold bracket of the Brodhead Volleyball Invite on Sept. 11, defeating Albany, Argyle, New Glarus, Evansville, Beloit Turner and ultimately Mineral Point by 25-14 and 26-24 in the championship. Of the nine teams, Juda came in seventh at 2-2 and the Albany/Brodhead varsity reserve came in ninth at 0-4.

## Brodhead library returns to masks

Service level debated as virus cases rise

By Dan Moeller  
 CORRESPONDENT

Patrons using the Brodhead library are once again required to wear masks.

At its last meeting in July, the library board decided not to require visitors to wear masks but noted library board President Kelly Gratz could make that and other service-related changes if necessary. On Sept. 2, the library switched to the policy requiring masks. The full library board affirmed that position at its Sept. 9 meeting.

The library board met partly in person and part virtually.

Concerning COVID-19, library Director Angela Noel cited the increase in the virus activity level from medium in July to very high on Sept. 1. Noel said there were 3,537 confirmed cases in Green County in July and 3,857 as

of Sept. 8.

As of the July board meeting, 52.7 percent of Green County residents had received at least one dose of the vaccine and 50.9 percent were fully vaccinated. Those numbers rose to 56.8 percent and 54.5 percent respectively as of Sept. 7.

Other libraries such as Albany, Belleville, Evansville and Janesville are now requiring masks and Monroe and New Glarus are going to curbside service only, Noel reported. Brodhead also left open the possibility of going to curbside service only.

"Today was not a good day," Noel said regarding masks. There were patrons who were not wearing their masks correctly and one patron who refused to wear a mask at all.

"I'm not here to argue,"

Noel told the board. "I'm not here to agree. I'm here to enforce the policy."

"If cases rise and or we get more individuals who refuse to mask, we may need to drop down to curbside only."

However, Noel said because of the increase in library usage now compared to curbside usage, she is reluctant to go back to curbside service only. In August there were only six curbside pickups compared to 3,183 library visits and 24,029 items checked out. That was up 23.7 percent from 19,430 last August.

In other discussion, board members talked about the possibility of moving to a fine-free policy, but didn't take any action since the library has not been charging fines during the pandemic.

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## Spotlighting student leadership



SUBMITTED PHOTOS Brodhead Independent-Register

Brodhead Middle School staff welcomed students at a back-to-school assembly on Sept. 7. After staff members introduced themselves, a crew of eighth-grade TOOL members shared some leadership opportunities that come with membership on the Team of Outstanding Leaders. The TOOL team is open to all students in grades six through eight and is focused on service projects and leadership enrichment in the school and community.



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# Obituaries

## ELVIN R. BUSJAHN

Elvin Robert Busjahn, age 92, of Brodhead, passed away on June 8, 2021, while at the William Middleton VA Hospital in Madison, Wisconsin. Elvin was born Nov. 4, 1928, in Lena, Illinois, the son of Herman and Florence (Shank) Busjahn.

He married the love of his life, Sara Ann Becker, on June 20, 1952. The bond between them was incredibly strong. They had many adventures together. They worked together and put in long hours so the farm and the family were successful. When they weren't working, they knew how to have fun too. Camping, canoeing and mushroom hunting were a few of their favorites.

Elvin served in the U.S. Army from 1951 to 1953.

He worked for many years farming outside of Brodhead and later retired from the Brodhead Post Office as a postal carrier.

He was an active member of the garden club in Brodhead for several years. As an accomplished farmer, he was able to share some of his secrets with his fellow members. He especially enjoyed his apple trees and would help other people with theirs. He scared more than a few of us thinking that he had pruned off way too much, but it always came out OK.

Elvin was a member of the American Legion in Orfordville. He was always getting involved with Legion activities like the Chicken Barbeque, hosting Rudy's Boys tug of war team and helping

out with things like the paper drive to help the local Boy Scout troop raise funds so they could go to summer camp.

Elvin was an avid canoeist who was as enthusiastic about leisurely floating down a river and enjoying the afternoon as he was about sprinting toward the finish line in an all-out dash to win a race. His last race was when he was 90 years old. He and his son, Carl took second place at the Muscoda canoe race on the Wisconsin River 50 years after they took second place in the Brodhead Jaycees' canoe race on the Sugar River, their first canoe race.

A great springtime passion for him was hunting morels — the "steak of the woods," as he liked to call

them. Always one to share, he wouldn't hesitate to let another mushroom hunter know exactly where he had found his most recent harvest. Just ask him and he will tell you, "on the South side of a hill, under a dead tree."

Elvin is survived by his wife, Sarah Ann Busjahn; two sons, Carl Busjahn and Melvin (Carol) Busjahn; five grandchildren; and six great grandchildren.

Elvin was preceded in death by his parents; one son, Dan; and his brothers, Harold, Eugene, Marvin and Leonard.

Per Elvin's wishes, he will be cremated and memorial services will be planned in the future.

There will be a celebration of life from 1 p.m. to

4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 26, at the American Legion. Please bring a funny or heartwarming story about Elvin so we can all enjoy some of his good times again.

The DL Newcomer Funeral Home in Brodhead is assisting the family; reach them at [www.dlnewcomerfuneralhome.com](http://www.dlnewcomerfuneralhome.com) or 608-897-2484.

## JANA L. OLSEN

Jana Lynn Olsen, age 57, of Rock City, Ill., passed away Sept. 4, 2021, at her home surrounded by her loved ones. She was born Sept. 29, 1963, in Aurora, Ill., the daughter of Roger and Susan (Daughenbaugh) Flack. Jana married Tom Olsen on Dec. 21, 1981.

She was the president of TR Machine of Davis, Illinois. Jana was a member of St. Paul Church of Epleyanna in Davis; former member of the Davis Fire Department Auxiliary; the DOE Foundation of Dakota High School; former EMT-I for Tri District Ambulance; and a member of the Victory Book Club.

Jana took great pride in the family she created with the love of her life, "Tommy." Family was everything to her. She had a great love for her children and grandchildren. Bingo was a grand favorite. She was known for her generosity and giving the best advice. She loved entertaining her friends, especially sharing her passion for cooking. Jana loved traveling the world, but she had a special place in her heart for Puerto Vallarta, which was she and Tommy's home away from home.

Jana is survived by her husband, Tom; children, Teal (Brock) Feld of Freeport, Ill.,



Whitney (Mike) Rockler of Rock City and Kayla (Cody) Jacobson of Davis; her 10 grandchildren, Riley, Tatumn, Talon, Taylor, Sophia, Chandler, Koehn, Dawson, Kanton and Jovi; brother, Shane (Stacey) Flack of Freeport; mother-in-law, Barbara Olsen; brother and sister-in-laws; many nieces and nephews; aunts, uncles and cousins; and "our Familia" — Luz, Yesica (José), Daniella, Juan (Griselda), Miguel, Evan, Christopher, Brian, Ian, Miranda, Hansel and Freddie.

She was preceded in death by her parents; father-in-law, Richard Olsen; sister-in-law, Kelley Olsen; and grandparents, Bob and Helen Flack and Lester and Margaret Daughenbaugh.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established for Casa Hogar Orphanage in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, in Jana's name. The family was assisted by Daughenbaugh Funeral Home. Condolences may be shared at [www.walkermortuary.com](http://www.walkermortuary.com). Services were held Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021, at St. Paul Church of Epleyanna in Davis, Ill.

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## In brief

### Community groups offer medication take-backs

Better Brodhead is teaming up with community groups to offer opportunities for the safe disposal of unused medications.

In partnership with the Monroe Farmers Market and the Monroe Police Department, a take-back event will be held from noon to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15, at the farmers market on the Monroe square.

Another take-back event is set for 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 17, in the parking lot of Hometown Pharmacy, 1101 Wisconsin Highway 69, New Glarus. The New Glarus Farmers Market and New Glarus Police Department are helping to organize the effort.

### Football ticket contest open to veterans

The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs is giving away free tickets to the Wisconsin Badger Salute to Veterans football game on Saturday, Oct. 16, at Camp Randall Sta-

dium.

Veterans and service members can register to win up to two tickets online at [WisVetsSports.com](http://WisVetsSports.com).

### Rock County offers tree and shrub sale

The Rock County Land Conservation Department is taking orders for its yearly Tree and Shrub Sale. Although the sale runs for several months, orders should be placed early for the best selection.

Distribution is usually around mid-April.

Trees and shrubs are bare root seedlings in single species units of 10 for \$20, bundles of 25 for \$30 or 50 for \$55 plus tax. Tree varieties may include black walnut, Fraser fir, Norway spruce, red oak, swamp white oak and white pine.

For an order form and more information, go online to [www.co.rock.wi.us/land-conservation-tree-shrub-sale](http://www.co.rock.wi.us/land-conservation-tree-shrub-sale) or call 608-754-6617, extension 3, during normal business hours.

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## Albany tractor show draws a crowd

Above: The number of tractors on display hit an all-time high at the 11th annual Albany FFA Alumni Tractor & Toy Show held recently. The event included pedal tractor pulls for children, toy farm displays, raffles and more.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Brodhead Independent-Register

From left, Albany Dairy Queen Shaianna Parker and Juda Dairy Queen Katie Brooks congratulate River Cockroft, second place winner for Spectator's Choice, along with Brooklyn Dairy Queen Ava Bergeland. Cockroft showed a 1988 Ford TW-25 tractor at the show.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Brodhead Independent-Register

Cambria Elmer of Brodhead gives it her all in the children's pedal tractor pull.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Brodhead Independent-Register

Calvin Barknow of Freeport, Illinois, had the winning farm display at the Albany FFA Alumni Tractor & Toy Show.



SUBMITTED PHOTO Brodhead Independent-Register

From left, Juda Dairy Queen Katie Brooks and Albany Dairy Queen Shaianna Parker congratulate Harold Pulver, winner of the Dairy Queen's Choice trophy, along with Brooklyn Dairy Queen Ava Bergeland. Pulver had a 1956 John Deere 80 on display at the show.

## Albany Comet News

### THURSDAY, SEPT. 16

- \*Picture Day, Albany schools
- Albertson Memorial Library open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- \*Albany high school volleyball at Pecatonica, 6 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.

### FRIDAY, SEPT. 17

- Albertson Memorial Library open 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- \*Parkview-Albany football at Fennimore, 7 p.m.

### SATURDAY, SEPT. 18

- \*Albany cross-country at Wausau, 8:30 a.m.
- \*Albany high school volleyball at Iowa-Grant tournament, 9 a.m.
- Albertson Memorial Library open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### SUNDAY, SEPT. 19

- Albany American Legion breakfast, 8 a.m. to noon (every third Sunday)
- Albertson Memorial Library closed

### MONDAY, SEPT. 20

- Albertson Memorial Library open 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Albany Parks Commission meeting, 6 p.m.
- Albany Joint Recycle Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY, SEPT. 21

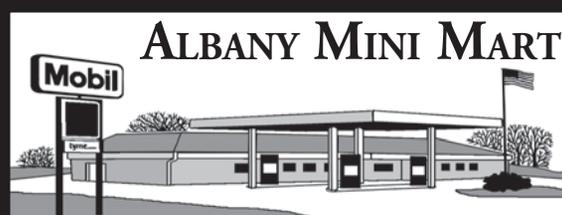
- Albertson Memorial Library open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- \*Albany high school volleyball at Black Hawk, 6 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22

- Albertson Memorial Library open 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- \*Albany schools early release, 2:37 p.m.

- Denotes a community event.  
\* Denotes Albany School event. For more information, please call 608-862-3225.

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BECKY MALKOW *Brodhead Independent-Register*



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Hayven Rundle poses by the Future Cardinal Cheerleader sign during the recent cheer camp, which was open to youth in 5K through eighth grade.

## Plenty to cheer about

Above: A host of young people attended the Brodhead-Juda cheer team's mini cheerleading camp on Sept. 11 at Albrecht Elementary School. Participants will be showing their skills at the Sept. 17 Brodhead-Juda football game against Platteville.

# Will the end of pandemic-related unemployment benefits ease Wisconsin's worker shortage?

By Nusaiba Mizan  
GREEN BAY PRESS-GAZETTE

Green Bay resident Jarrett Brown, a labor activist and former union steward, believes there's dignity and pride in work.

He never applied for unemployment benefits in nearly two decades of working — until the pandemic. He was unemployed from June to September 2020 and again from December to March.

He became one of many Americans receiving unemployment insurance payments during the pandemic, including the expanded unemployment

insurance benefits from the federal government.

Brown said the \$300 federal unemployment insurance benefit, which expired recently in Wisconsin, was a "life saver" during that time. He made about the same with expanded unemployment benefits compared to the job he got afterward.

"It wasn't like a windfall. It wasn't like I was getting rich or anything, but it definitely made it a lot easier to get by than it would have without it, for sure," Brown said.

Faced with a workforce shortage in some low-wage

industries, 22 states ended the \$300 federal unemployment expansion early. These state governments believed the expanded benefit was discouraging people from seeking a job. Wisconsin Republicans, too, sought to end the expanded benefits until Gov. Evers vetoed their bill in June.

Economists have been split on the extent to which higher unemployment checks are holding back job seekers. Some studies say ending expanded benefits did not discourage employment, while others say it slightly increases employment. The expiration of the en-

hanced benefit renews the question: Will the expiration boost employment in industries like restaurants, retail and manufacturing that have struggled to attract workers? Or will that effect fall short because of other factors, like workers' changing expectations from employers and a longstanding demographics-driven labor shortage?

Brown said the extra benefits didn't prevent him from looking for work. While unemployed, he treated his job hunt as a full-time job. He finds it hard to believe people would pass up a good job because of the federal money.

"I value work. I value being able to contribute, and I value being able to earn my own money. And so for me, that \$300 isn't enough to make me not want to search for work," Brown said.

### Will ending benefit boost employment levels?

Wisconsin faces a shortage of workers in several industries, including restaurants and retail. There are more than 110,000 job postings on the Job Center of Wisconsin website. Wisconsin was already headed toward a workforce shortage with an aging workforce, but for many baby boomers the pandemic sped up the decision to retire.

Facing similar workforce shortages, more than half of U.S. states pulled out of expanded unemployment benefits program early. The research is still developing on whether and

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# Dragon boat racing highlights daylong festival

Dragons on the Rock, the annual dragon boat race and community festival benefiting KANDU, is set for 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, at Traxler Park in Janesville.

Festival admission is free and includes access to watch the dragon boat races. Parking is \$5 and benefits the Rock Aqua Jays water ski team.

The dragon boat race begins at 9 a.m. and features 16 to 20 paddlers and one drummer in each boat, competing in heats throughout the day to determine the top three champions. Eighteen boats

are expected to participate. Following the race at approximately 4 p.m., the 2021 national champion Rock Aqua Jays will perform an exhibition water ski show.

New this year, the festival will include the Street Chef Challenge, sponsored by Kerry. Local street chefs will each prepare a signature dish using ingredients provided by Kerry. Top chefs will be determined by expert Kerry judges and festival guests.

Participants include Gracie's Kitchen, Rock City Roasters, Sharla's Coffee, Coco's Tamales, Joe's Hi-

bachi Food Truck, Autentica Food Truck and Steve's Deli Dog House.

In addition to the Street Chef Challenge, food will be

available for purchase from various local food trucks.

Live performances also are scheduled throughout the day.

Proceeds from the event will help to fund programs and services KANDU provides to nearly 200 clients with disabilities or disad-

vantages. For more information, go online to [www.kanduindustries.com/dragons](http://www.kanduindustries.com/dragons) or call 608-755-4123.



PHOTO COURTESY KANDU INDUSTRIES Brodhead Independent-Register

Teams of 16 to 20 will compete in dragon boat races along the Rock River in Janesville during the Sept. 18 Dragons on the Rock festival.

## New Glarus hosts Oktoberfest fun

Oktoberfest is set for Thursday, Sept. 23, through Sunday, Sept. 26, in downtown New Glarus. Admission is free.

The highlights of each day include:

**Thursday**  
• Polka music by the Steve Meisner Band, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
• Oktoberfest king and queen contest, 8:30 p.m.

**Friday**  
• Beer tent, food stands and craft vendors open, 6 p.m.  
• Tap the wooden keg, 7 p.m.  
• Music by Super Tuesday, 8 p.m. to midnight

**Saturday**  
• 5K/10K run and two-mile walk, 9 a.m.  
• Beer tent, food stands and craft vendors open, 11 a.m.  
• Antique tractor pull, 11 a.m.

to 3 p.m.  
• Music by Max Drexler Bavarian Brass Band, noon to 3 p.m.

• Horse-drawn wagon rides, noon to 4 p.m.  
• Music by Back Country Roads, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

• Music by Boogie & the Yo Yo'z, 8 p.m. to midnight

**Sunday**  
• Beer tent, food stands and craft vendors open, 11 a.m.  
• Music by Mascot Theory, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
• Horse-drawn wagon rides, noon to 4 p.m.  
• Music by The Jimmys, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.  
For more information, go online to [swisstown.com](http://swisstown.com) or call the New Glarus Chamber of Commerce at 608-527-2095.

## Library (Continued from front page)

In addition, library officials would like to get input from the city council on the approximately \$5,000 in lost income per year if a fine-free policy was adopted. Fines are not included in the proposed budget for next year.

Currently, 488 patrons owe a total of \$4,919.69 in fines. The majority — \$3,427.29 — is owed for at least three fiscal years and is unlikely to be collected, she said.

The majority of patrons who owe fines would not be blocked by the system if they used another South Central Library System library. Many libraries feel that charging fines discourages a certain number of patrons from using the library, said Noel, and nearly two-thirds of SCLS libraries are currently fine free.

Brodhead and Monroe are the only libraries in Green County that currently charge fines and the Monroe director recently indicated they are looking to go fine-free in the near future, Noel said.

"Not having to hassle patrons for fines provides a better library experience," she said.

In other board business:  
• Noel reported there were a total of 79 programs in July and August with at least 1,382 people participating. The programs were either virtual or passive.

• Noel reported that two boys were apprehended by police recently after using rocks to write an inappropriate message on the library sidewalk. The boys were caught on camera. The message has been sanded over.

"At this point we can only hope it is a learning experience," she said.

## Donation will help those struggling to pay energy bills

A \$4 million donation by Alliant Energy to its Hometown Care Energy Fund will help customers pay their energy bills. Customers who need financial assistance are encouraged to use the funds to avoid falling behind on their bills, according to a news release.

Of the \$4 million contribution, \$2 million is available to customers in Wisconsin and \$2 million is available to customers in Iowa.

"We understand many customers still need help paying their utility bill, even as the economy recovers from the height of the COVID-19 pandemic," Linda Mattes, Alliant Energy vice president of customer operations, said in a news release. "We are proud to double our contribution to

the fund to help our customers recover and get back on track. If customers are struggling financially, we do want them to know help is available."

In Wisconsin, Alliant Energy, in partnership with nonprofit organizations, will identify income-eligible customers and disperse funds to those customers.

Alliant Energy provides electric service in Albany and electric and gas in Orfordville.

The Hometown Care Energy Fund is supported annually with funds from Alliant Energy shareowners, as well as voluntary contributions from employees, retirees and customers. Shareowner contributions are not included in the rates charged to customers. For more information, including how to

donate to the fund, go online to [alliantenergy.com/hometowncare](http://alliantenergy.com/hometowncare).

"Providing support to those who need it the most is critical given the economic impacts of the pandemic," said Tom Content, executive director of the Citizens Utility Board, the nonprofit advocate for Alliant Energy's residential and small business customers in Wisconsin. "CUB appreciates the boost to the Hometown Care Energy Fund and Alliant Energy's commitment both to help customers who have fallen behind on their energy bills and collaborate with us on innovative ideas to help folks in dire straits."

In addition to the Hometown Care Energy Fund, Alliant Energy offers several options to

help customers manage their bills. The company's My Account site allows customers to set up a flexible payment arrangement based on their ability to pay, track their energy use and make fee-free credit card payments. Customers may also request a payment extension or set up weekly or monthly automatic payments.

Alliant Energy also assists financially disadvantaged customers in Wisconsin through an arrears management program. This program reduces customers' past-due balances each time they pay their current monthly bill on time.

To find other resources available for customers who need assistance, go online to [alliantenergy.com/energyassistance](http://alliantenergy.com/energyassistance) or call 211.

**News from Parkview in Orfordville:**

## Viking Times

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 16**

- Orfordville library open, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; book club at 6 p.m.
- Parkview varsity volleyball triangular at Central Wisconsin Christian School, 4:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 17**

- Orfordville library open, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; storytime at 11 a.m.
- Parkview-Albany varsity football at Fennimore, 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 18**

- Orfordville library open, 9 a.m. to noon
- Parkview varsity volleyball at Deerfield invitational, 9 a.m.
- Parkview cross-country at Belleville invitational,

9 a.m.

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 19**

- Orfordville library closed

**MONDAY, SEPT. 20**

- Orfordville library open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Orfordville Planning Commission meeting, 6 p.m.
- Parkview School Board meeting, 6 p.m.

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 21**

- Orfordville library open, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Teen/Tween Tuesday, 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- Parkview varsity volleyball at Deerfield, 7:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22**

- Orfordville library open, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## Stateline Consignment Auction

Huge 2 Day Auction with A Huge Selection of Farm, Construction & Support Equipment  
Office: 608-439-5760 Mike Powers 608-214-5761 Dan Powers SR. 608-214-3765

**Dates:** Friday September 24<sup>th</sup> – Saturday September 25<sup>th</sup>  
**Time:** Auction Starts 8:00 AM Both Days  
**Location:** 110 East Murray St Browtown WI 53522

JOIN US SALE DAY - ONLINE & ONSITE BIDDING AVAILABLE  
Visit Our Website For Complete Listings For Both Days!  
[www.powersauction.com](http://www.powersauction.com) - Featuring The Following

**Fred & Martha Olson Farm Retirement Line:** Case IH 5088 Combine, Low Hours, Case IH 3406 Corn Head, Case IH 3020 Platform, John Deere 7800 Tractor, MFWD, 6600 Hrs, John Deere 7510 Tractor, MFWD, 4400 Hrs, Complete Farm Line, Up For Auction, Very Clean Well Cared For Equipment!

**Robert K Johns Estate Line:** International 1486 Tractor, John Deere 9410 Combine-Just Spent \$10k In Repairs Last Fall Before Storing It, Kinzie 3000 6R Planter Liquid Fertilizer, Good Quality Local Equipment

**Also Featuring A Huge Selection Of Quality Equipment –** Skid Steers – Excavators – Trucks – Trailers – Recreation Equipment – Farm Equipment – Balers – Tillage – Harvest Equipment – Lawn & Garden

**Don't Miss Your Opportunity To Sell – Last Day To Consign**  
**September 18<sup>th</sup> 2021**  
Yard Is Open For Equipment Preview Prior To Auction

Terms & Conditions: A Photo ID Is Required To Register. All Items Must Be Paid For The Day Of Sale By: Cash, Check, ACH, or Credit Card With a 4% Convenience Fee. Wisconsin Sales Tax Of 5.5% Applies To Certain Items, September 24<sup>th</sup> – 2.5% Buyers Premium Day of Auction For Online Buyers Capped At \$750 Per Item Purchased. September 25<sup>th</sup> 10% Buyers Premium Applies To All Buyers Sale Day. All Internet Buyers Must Pay Within 3 Days After The Auction. All Sales Are Final-Everything Is Sold AS IS-WHERE IS With No Warranties or Guarantees Expressed or Implied. A \$50 Dock Fee Applies On All Titled/Registered Items. Powers Auction Service Is Not Responsible For Items Once Sold. Announcements Made Day Of Sale Supersede Any & All Printed Materials. Buyer Is Held Responsible To Inspect Merchandise Before Purchasing

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# Join the 2021 FOOTBALL FRENZY CONTEST

• Register Weekly •  
**Follow Your Hometown Teams!**  
 1st Prize \$20  
 2nd Prize \$10

## THIRD WEEK FOOTBALL FRENZY WINNERS

There were 9 entries from three area communities in the third week of The Independent-Register's Football Frenzy Contest.  
 The first place winner of \$20 was Dennis Schwartz of Brodhead with 7 correct answers and 56 as the most points scored.  
 The second place winner of \$10 was Megan Smith of Durand with 6 correct answers and 62 as the most points scored.  
 The most points scored by one team was Darlington vs Parkview with a score of 66-0.  
 Thank you to everyone who participated in the Football Frenzy Contest this week and a special thanks to all our sponsors who make this contest possible.

## CONTEST RULES

1. Pick the teams listed in each advertisement on this page. Indicate the winner by writing in the name of the team opposite the advertiser's name in the entry blank. No scores. Just pick winners.
2. Pick a number which you think will be the highest number of points scored by any one team on this page and place this number in the space provided near the bottom of entry blank. This will be used to break ties and if a tie remains, one winner will be chosen via random drawing from all correct entries.
3. One entry only from each contestant. Entries must be brought to The Independent-Register office by 4:30 p.m. Friday or postmarked no later than Friday of each week and mailed to The Independent-Register, 917 W. Exchange St., Brodhead, WI, 53520.
4. Must be ten years of age or older to qualify.

**ARN'S RADIATOR SHOP**  
 Serving Brodhead for over 39 years.  
**ARN TOWING, L.L.C.**  
 24 hours per day • 7 days per week  
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**ARN'S AUTO SERVICE**  
 802 2nd Street • Brodhead, WI  
 Monday-Friday • 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
 608-897-3330  
 Call or stop by for an appointment.  
 Computerized Estimates - casey@arnsauto.com  
 Clinton vs. Pardeeville

**BODY CRAFTERS**  
 AUTO BODY REPAIR INC.  
 Brodhead, WI • Across from Subway  
**FREE LOANER CAR**  
 When you need body work call us first.  
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 Parkview vs. Fennimore

208 1<sup>st</sup> Center Ave  
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 fax 608-897-3818  
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 Quality is No Accident  
 McFarland vs. Whitewater

**GARY'S CENTER TAVERN BAR & GRILL**  
 108 N. Water St. • Downtown Albany  
 608-862-3320  
**PARTY AT CENTER! | Food • Drinks • Fun**  
 Evansville-Albany vs. East Troy

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**BRODHEAD SERVICE CENTER**  
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 608-897-8671 • brodhead@insightfs.com  
**AGRONOMY • ENERGY • FEED • GRAIN • TURF**  
 Brodhead-Juda vs. Platteville

**Luecke's Diamond Center**  
 ON THE SQUARE, MONROE, WI • 608-325-2600  
 HOURS: MON-FRI 9AM-5PM, SAT 9AM-4PM  
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 AMERICAN GEM SOCIETY  
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**MONROE ONE HOUR CLEANERS**  
 1629 9th St., Monroe • 608-325-5860  
 Let us bring new life to your tired, wrinkled clothing, accessories and more!  
 From dressy to casual - you can now **look great** and **feel good EVERYDAY!**  
 Monroe vs. Edgerton

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 Dodgeville vs. River Valley

### OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Arn's Auto Service \_\_\_\_\_  
 Body Crafters \_\_\_\_\_  
 Brodhead Collision \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gary's Center Tavern \_\_\_\_\_  
 Insight FS \_\_\_\_\_  
 Luecke's Diamond Center \_\_\_\_\_  
 Monroe One Hour Cleaners \_\_\_\_\_  
 Real Estate Connections \_\_\_\_\_

I think \_\_\_\_\_ will be the most points scored by one team.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL OR BRING ENTRY TO THE INDEPENDENT-REGISTER**  
 Letters or entries must be at The Independent-Register office by 4:30 p.m. on Friday or postmarked by Friday and mailed to:  
 The Independent-Register  
 917 West Exchange Street  
 Brodhead, WI 53520  
 (Reasonable Facsimile Also Accepted)



**PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE SPONSORS WHO MAKE THIS CONTEST POSSIBLE!!!**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

# Classifieds

AD DEADLINE:  
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**1st, 2nd, & 3rd SHIFTS**  
Part-Time - Flexible Scheduling

**FORKLIFT OPERATORS**  
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**PRODUCTION WORKERS**  
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MUST BE 16 YEARS OLD  
MONROE, WI

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## SPINHIRNE TRANSFER

Looking for drivers.  
Must have good driving record.

We are local and regional commodity hauling company.  
We provide a very competitive hourly wage plus paid vacation.

Contact Greg Spinhirne at 815-275-4215  
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*Rock Valley Publishing*, your hometown newspapers serving the stateline has an opening for an experienced Media Sales Representative to call on current and new accounts in a protected sales territory.

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Email: vicki@southernlakesnewspapers.com  
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Don't wait!

Call today to place your classified ads with the Rock Valley Publishing newspapers. Call 608-897-2193.

## real estate

**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE** All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial/ status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-900-669-9777. The toll-free tele phone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275. EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

## garage sale

### Brodhead

**N4075 GOLF COURSE RD.** Sept. 17 & 18 9am-5pm. Play pen, high chair, toys, puzzles, wheel chair, walker, exercise equipment, charcoal grill, kayaks, books, suitcase, jars, lg. coffee pot, electric beer sign, bar stools, cots, dog house, new honey jars & lots of miscellaneous.

### Orfordville

**2017 S. STATE RD 213** Sept 15-Sept 18 (9AM-4PM) Patio furniture, household items, crib and toddler bed with mattress, children's table and chair set, women's clothes (M-2X), shoes, retired Stampin' Up! stamps and dies, punches, and scrapbook supplies. Something for everyone; to numerous to mention.

## for rent

### Apartments

**MEADOW PARK APARTMENTS** 703 Meadow Park Drive, Clinton. One bedroom apartment, includes stove, refrigerator, all utilities, laundry room, locked lobby and parking. You pay 30% of income for rent. Equal Housing Opportunity. 608-676-4278.

## business & service

### Auctions

**BILLMAN ESTATE JOHN DEERE** tractors & estate sale! 58 vintage working tractors, parts & 50+ pedal tractors & more! Twig, MN. Sept. 16 19. estateofvalue.com 715-718-8000

### Misc Services

**DISH NETWORK.** \$59.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-866-290-9532

**ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING** forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-948-3442

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### Campers and RVs

**2016 KEYSTONE RV 27'** Sprinter Campfire. Call for info 262-470-4083

**2019 HEARTLAND RG28** Toy-hauler, like brand new. Pull with 1/2 ton pick up. List \$34,000, asking \$25,000. Many extras. 608-339-2424.

### Farm Machinery

**CUB LOWBOY 154** Underbelly mower. Extra tires, belts & parts. \$3,200. 262-822-7895.

**STEAM ENGINE REPLICA** Full size, homemade, runs on gasoline. \$2,000 262-862-7070

### Motorcycles

**1992 HARLEY DAVIDSON** Heritage Softtail: Very clean. 29,000 miles. \$5,000. OBO. 847-395-5128

**(2) HONDA NX650 DOMINATORS** 1988 w/14K with gps pipe & jet kit. 1989 w/8K with arrow pipe & jet kit. Both astro-metallic blue & great cond. \$5000 ea. OBO. (262) 945-3190

### Tree Service

**HAILE TREE SERVICE** licensed and insured, aerial bucket and stump removal. 24 hr. emergency service. 608-879-9014

**IT'S GARAGE SALE TIME AGAIN!**

### Automobiles

**1995 CADILLAC SEVILLE SLS** Good cond., 81,800 mi., all elec accessories work. 262-537-3202 \$3,800 OBO

**2001 LEXUS LS430** 151,000 MI., GPS, Mark Levenson Stereo, heated front & rear seats. \$5,995 262-592-3270

**2005 DODGE DURANGO** One owner, 5.7 Hemi Motor, 156,000 mi., serviced regularly, runs great, tires are good, sun roof, DVD player, sum rust, a good SUV. \$2,500 OBO. 262-767-0926 or 262-661-6990

**2006 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX** Great shape, runs great. Many new parts! \$3000. OBO. Call 262-745-2294.

**2008 FORD FOCUS** 4 dr, 4 cyl., 87,400 miles. \$4,500. 262-930-9109.

**2008 FORD FUSION SEL** Loaded car. New brakes, tires, rotors, calipers. Beautiful condition. No rust. 5 speed, 205,000 miles. \$3,500 OBO. Pete 414-801-2360.

**2020 CHRYSLER PACIFICA** Limited Sport. Granite Crystal, triple sunroof, heated and Air cond. seats. All power. 11K. \$44,900 (262) 210-7329

### Boats

**16 FT. WHITEHAUL WOOD** Sailing/Row Boat. Latstrake Construction 5' beam, includes trailer, canvas cover, 2 oars, Gaff Rig Sail & swing down keel. \$7,000 OBO. 815-885-3360.

**18' DEEP SEA BOAT 70 HP.** Evinrude motor & a 2nd Evinrude 7.5 motor. Garage kept. \$5,000. 262-878-3463

**1973 CRUISERS 17', 70hp** Merc w/trailer, runs great, \$1500 obo. 815-347-0496

**1978 AZTEC RANGER 17' BASS BOAT** Evinrude Outboard XP100, with motor guide trolling motor. \$3,500 OBO 708-516-1211

**JON BOAT** 6hp Evinrude, on trailer, spare tire, recent tune up. \$500 815-499-6699

### Trucks & Trailers

**2001 4x4 F350 7.3 Power** stroke work truck. Turn key, over \$6500. invested, asking \$5000. 608-339-2424.

**4 GOODYEAR HEAVY DUTY TIRES** LT265 70R 18, 75% tread. \$200. 815-499-6699

### Parts & Accessories

**USED 16K LB HUSKEY 5TH** wheel trailer hitch. Asking \$275. 815-233-2628

### Sports/Classic Cars

**1934 FORD PICK UP.** LT-1 350,400 Hp Chev. Polished ram intake, 6-97 carbs, turbo 400 trans. Chevella 12 bolt posi. Crager mag wheels. 847-838-1916

**1940 RAT ROD** Rolling Chassis. Asking \$2500. Call 608-214-0668.

**2000 BMW Z3 RDSTR. CONV.** Blue, 136K, \$6,000. 608-359-9655

**AVENGER FORD GT40** Mid eng., Buick turbo v-6, 4 sp., tube frame w/roll bar, silver, w/chin spoiler. Wt. 2,140lbs. 847-838-1916

**MANTA MIRAGE, STREET CAN AM RACE CAR** S. B. C., 4 spd. tube frame, custom wheels, chrome yellow, show winner, fast. 847-838-1916

**MANTA MIRAGE, STREET CAN AM RACE CAR** S. B. C., 4 spd. tube frame, custom wheels, chrome yellow, show winner, fast. 847-838-1916

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**(2) HONDA NX650 DOMINATORS** 1988 w/14K with gps pipe & jet kit. 1989 w/8K with arrow pipe & jet kit. Both astro-metallic blue & great cond. \$5000 ea. OBO. (262) 945-3190

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**2002 HARLEY DAVIDSON V-ROD-** \$10,400 - unique opportunity to purchase an iconic motorcycle with 447 original miles. Held in dealer collection for 15 years then by private owner for the last four years. 262-492-8206

**2006 CLASSIC KAWASAKI** Black w/shield, low mi, good condition. \$5,500. 224-399-9400.

### Parts & Accessories

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For details on placing an ad in our Classified Section  
Call 608-897-2193

## for sale

### Announcements

**CLASSIFIED IN-COLUMN ADS** cannot be credited or refunded after the ad has been placed. Ads canceled before deadline will be removed from the paper as a service to our customers, but no credit or refund will be issued to your account.

**DISCLAIMER NOTICE** This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance.

### Wanted to Buy

**FREON WANTED:** We pay \$\$\$ for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312-291-9169 or visit Refrigerant-Finders.com



# An eye-catching show of support

Left: Staff and students at Brodhead Middle School wore orange last week to show their support of the Second Harvest Food Bank of southwestern Wisconsin. The organization's purpose is to end hunger by working with local groups that share a passion to help people.

SUBMITTED PHOTO  
Brodhead Independent-Register

## Legal Notices

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
CIRCUIT COURT  
GREEN COUNTY  
Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
George Pope; Donna L. Pope; United States of America; United States Attorney, Western District of Wisconsin,  
Defendants.  
Case No. 2019CV000085  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE  
By virtue of a judgment of foreclosure made in the above-entitled action on September 24, 2019, in the amount of \$143,343.02, I will sell at public auction in the ground floor in the conference room of the Green County Justice Center located at 2841 6th St., Monroe, WI 53566, on **September 23, 2021, at 09:00 AM**, all of the following described premises, to wit:  
Lot 6 of Certified Survey Map No. 2179, recorded in Volume 7 of Certified Survey Maps of Green County on Page 145 as Document No. 370311 in Section 9, Township 2 North, Range 9 East, Town of Decatur, Green County, Wisconsin  
Tax Key No. 23012 01920600  
Address: N4124 Oak Hill Circle, Brodhead, WI 53520  
**THE PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO ALL LEGAL ENCUMBRANCES.**  
**TERMS OF SALE:**  
1. At the time of sale: a down-payment (CASH or CERTIFIED FUNDS only) in an amount not less than 10% of the successful bid; and  
2. No later than ten (10) days after the Court confirms the sale:  
a. The balance due on the sale;  
b. The amount of the transfer fee due under Section 77.22, Wis. Stats., if any; and  
c. The amount of the fee due under Section 59.43(2), Wis. Stats., to record the deed and any other document required for such recordation.  
DATED at Brodhead, Wisconsin on August 5, 2021.  
/s/ Jeffrey Skatrud  
Sheriff of Green County,  
Wisconsin  
Bass & Moglowski, S.C.  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
The Independent Register  
9/1, 9/8 & 9/15, 2021  
WNAXLP 401493

Messerli & Kramer PA, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 3033 Campus Drive, Ste. 250 Plymouth, MN 55441. You may have an attorney help or represent you.  
If you do not provide a proper answer within forty (40) days, the court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future, and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.  
**MESSERLI & KRAMER PA**  
Samuel J. Olson, #1104219 WI eSigned on 8/24/2021 in Milwaukee/Decatur County, WI  
3033 Campus Drive, Ste. 250 Plymouth, MN 55441  
cc-litigation@messerlikramer.com  
Ph#: (763) 548-7900  
Fax#: (763) 548-7922  
The Independent Register  
9/1, 9/8, 9/15/2021  
WNAXLP 402756

**NOTICE OF STORAGE LIEN SALE**  
Sugar River Storage located at 700 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Albany, WI will conduct a lien sale at 4 pm on Oct. 1, 2021. Following is a brief description of the unit subject to the sale:  
Unit #66, Sharon Peterson. Kids bicycles, furniture, videos & personal property.  
Unit may be redeemed by paying owner, Sugar River Storage, PO Box 40, Albany, WI 53502 anytime prior to sale. Excess proceeds will be sent to the State Treasurer.  
For information call 608-558-1510.  
The Independent Register  
9/15, 9/22, 9/29/2021  
WNAXLP 403592

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
CIRCUIT COURT  
GREEN COUNTY  
Associated Bank, NA  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Darwin W. Nipple, et al.  
Defendants.  
Case No. 2019CV000126  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE  
By virtue of a judgment of foreclosure made in the above-entitled action on December 10, 2019 in the amount of \$75,227.16, I will sell at public auction, located at the Green County Justice Center, Ground Floor Conference Room, 2841 6th Street, Monroe, WI 53566, on  
October 14, 2021  
At 9:00 AM, all of the following described premises, to wit:  
LOT NUMBER EIGHT (8) IN BLOCK NUMBER TWENTY-TWO (22) OF THE ORIGINAL PLAT IN THE CITY OF BRODHEAD, GREEN COUNTY, WISCONSIN.  
Street Address: 607 6th Street, Brodhead, WI 53520  
Tax Key No. 23206730  
**THE PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD AS IS AND SUBJECT TO ANY AND ALL REAL ESTATE TAXES, SUPERIOR LIENS OR OTHER LEGAL ENCUMBRANCES.**  
**TERMS OF SALE:** CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK or CERTIFIED FUNDS, payable to the Clerk of Courts (10% down payment at sale, balance due within ten (10) days of Court approval; down payment to be forfeited if payment not received timely).  
Buyer must comply with minimum bidder qualifications as set forth in Wis. Stat. § 846.155.  
Buyer to pay applicable Wisconsin Real Estate Transfer Tax in addition to the purchase price.

Jeff Skatrud  
Sheriff of Green County,  
Wisconsin  
Codilis, Moody & Circelli, P.C.  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
(414) 775-7700  
50-19-01516  
NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector.  
The Independent Register  
9/15, 9/22, 9/29/2021  
WNAXLP 403368

**NOTICE**  
The School District of Albany is seeking bids for winter snow removal for the 2021-2022 winter season. Please locate the bid form on our website: albany.k12.wi.us or email Jim Briggs at jim.briggs@albany.k12.wi.us. Please return the completed form, along with proof of insurance by October 8, 2020 at 3:00pm to Director of Buildings and Grounds, School District of Albany, PO Box 349, Albany, WI 53502 or email it to jim.briggs@albany.k12.wi.us  
The Independent Register  
9/15, 9/22, 9/29, 10/6/2021  
WNAXLP 403597

**MEETING NOTICE**  
The Town of Spring Grove Monthly Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 5:00 P.M. at the Town Hall, N2475 Hwy GG, Brodhead, WI  
**MEETING AGENDA:**  
1. Call to Order  
2. Pledge of Allegiance  
3. Approval of Agenda and/or changes  
4. Reading of August Meeting Minutes  
5. Treasurers Report  
6. Public Input  
7. Juda Fire District Contract Renewal  
8. Hartjo Property Update  
9. Brodhead EMS Update  
10. Driveway Permits  
11. Building Permits  
12. Equipment Repairs  
13. Building Repairs  
14. New Plow Truck Update  
15. Road Projects  
16. Set Budget Workshop  
Date  
17. Review of Monthly Bills  
18. Adjournment  
Deb Cline, Clerk  
The Independent Register  
9/15/2021  
WNAXLP 403670

**TOWN OF DECATUR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**  
**Monday, September 20, 2021 6:00PM**  
**Town Hall - 1408 14th Street, Brodhead, WI**  
**AGENDA:**  
1. Call to Order  
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag  
3. Additions/Corrections to Agenda  
4. Approval of Minutes  
5. Treasurer's Report  
6. Payment of Bills  
7. Citizen Concerns  
8. Property Violations  
9. Status of Ford F450  
10. Road Report  
11. Convention Registration  
12. Review Town of Decatur Insurance (Michael Hutchinson Rural Mutual)  
13. Roadwork  
14. Conditional Use Permit (CUP: Brian Raupp N4455 CTH E)  
15. Review of Website Security - Change to .gov from .com  
16. Election Integrity - Bruce Klopping  
17. Sharing of Information Correspondence  
18. Future Agenda Items  
19. Set dates for future meetings  
20. Adjournment  
Sandra K. McManus  
Clerk/Treasurer  
The Independent Register  
9/15/2021  
WNAXLP 403700

## • Shortage (Continued from page 4)

to what extent those moves affected employment in those states.  
An Aug. 20 report from the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Center for Research on the Wisconsin Economy found the 22 states that ended expanded unemployment in June saw non-farm employment grow faster than the rest of the U.S. after the additional unemployment benefit ended.  
That UW-Madison report, which cautioned that the report's data covers only a short time period, used Bureau of Labor Statistics monthly household and payroll employment surveys.  
Economists surveyed by the University of Chicago's Initiative on Global Markets are split on whether the additional payments disincentivized the job hunt for lower-wage workers, with most economists saying they are uncertain.

### Being paid to 'sit on the sidelines'

A spokesperson from the state's largest business lobby, Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce, pointed to June research from the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco which found that last year's \$600 a week supplemental payment had a moderate disincentive effect on job-finding. The study extrapolated that analysis and assessed there would be a smaller effect for the \$300 weekly payment.  
Nick Novak, vice president of communications and marketing for WMC, which backed the push to end enhanced unemployment benefits in Wisconsin, said member businesses are finding it hard to hire even after increasing wages and offering sign-on bonuses because they must compete with the extra unemployment payments.  
"We've seen an unfortunate impact of these expanded benefits because the federal government is paying people to sit on the sidelines," Novak said.  
On the other hand, Laura Dresser, associate director for

the Center on Wisconsin Strategy at UW-Madison, is skeptical of claims that characterize enhanced unemployment as a disincentive.  
Dresser pointed out that the San Francisco Federal Reserve study also found only a small fraction of workers receiving the previous, higher \$600 CARES Act supplement in May and June 2020 would have turned down an offer to return to work at their previous wages.  
"The value of a sustained job, especially in a depressed labor market, significantly outweighs the value of the temporary additional UI income," Federal Reserve researchers wrote in the report.  
Dresser said she doesn't believe the combination of state and federal unemployment benefits is large enough to discourage workers from seeking jobs. She believes the combined state and federal unemployment payments are barely enough for a family to get by in the first place.

Wisconsin's weekly regular unemployment insurance payments range from \$54 to \$370, depending upon pay in an employee's previous job. Regular unemployment insurance plus the \$300 expansion creates a \$354 to \$670 unemployment insurance range. If you consider those amounts relative to a 40-hour work week, that would be equivalent to between \$8.85 and \$16.75 an hour.  
Novak at Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce believes unemployment recipients may be making more in some cases — or that the difference is not enough for people to accept jobs.  
"If you are a potential worker, if you're looking at the incentive of going to work full time potentially at \$15, \$20, or even more than \$20 an hour, you also have the option to sit at home and potentially make \$17 an hour," Novak said.

### Pandemic, unemployment benefits change landscape

To compete for workers,

employers across the state are voluntarily raising their wages.  
Dresser pointed to restaurants as one example of an industry where wages are in flux. Many restaurant workers have held two or three jobs just to make ends meet.  
"And these wages have been so stagnant for so long in the restaurant sector that, in some ways, it feels like maybe this is the appropriate adjustment to making the jobs that would support a more complete life," Dresser said.  
However, increased wages may not be enough. Employers could consider more aspects of work to attract talent in this economy. Scheduling flexibility, sick days and child care benefits are all critical for low-wage workers too, Dresser said.

"Many employers are really sensitive to and really design great work environments," Dresser said. "But some haven't paid attention as much to these things. And I think you'll see them changing wages but also considering scheduling, benefits and the kind of supervision and support to staff — and that is ultimately good for those workers."  
Brown believes the pandemic has brought about some improvements for workers despite its challenges. Alongside higher wages, workers have seen bonuses and more flexibility to needs like child care, Brown said. He is currently working the highest paying job he's ever had at a food processing plant, and there have been several raises since March at the company he works, Brown noted.  
"Honestly, the way I saw it, I feared that the pandemic was actually going to hurt workers, because I thought it was going to make everyone more desperate to get back into the workplace and just take whatever job no matter how much they paid — but the exact opposite happened, which is a good thing," Brown said.

This story was produced as part of the NEW (Northeast Wisconsin) News Lab.



KENT TEMPUS/OCONTO COUNTY REPORTER Brodhead Independent-Register  
Signs along Charles Street in Oconto, Wisconsin, advertise job openings at Le-Tourneau Plastics. Such signs are not uncommon, as numerous companies and businesses throughout the county and in northeastern Wisconsin struggle to find workers. Experts disagree whether enhanced pandemic-related unemployment benefits discouraged people from re-entering the workforce.