

New Thrift and Thrive store in Monroe to benefit sexual assault recovery program

Family Services of Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois, Inc., will open a new thrift store in Monroe called Thrift and Thrive. Located at 1020 17th Avenue in downtown Monroe, all proceeds from sales will benefit the Sexual Assault Recovery Program (SARP), which serves survivors of sexual assault and human trafficking in Rock and

Green counties.

The store's grand opening is set for 4 to 7 p.m. on April 19, with a ribbon cutting at 4:30 p.m. All are invited to attend the free event, which will include refreshments.

The Thrift and Thrive store's regular hours will be Wednesdays through Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Because the store will be staffed by volunteers,

hours may vary occasionally. Family Services is also seeking volunteers to help in the store. Anyone interested may contact Jenifer Wichita at jwichita@sarpwi.com for more information, or stop at the store.

All items for sale in the store will be donated and in good condition. These include books, adult and children's clothes, jewelry and other accessories,

shoes, purses, and household items. Donations are appreciated; donations of in-season items in good condition may be made directly at the store anytime during open hours. Donated items must be able to be easily transported by one person.

Family Services previously operated a thrift store in Monroe in partnership with a local business owner from Novem-

ber, 2019 until November of 2022.

"We are excited to move forward as independent owners of this business, both to provide a store that offers affordable, sustainable products, and to generate additional funds to benefit SARP," said Kelsey Hood Christensen, Director of Survivor Empowerment Services.

In addition to SARP, Family Services includes the following programs: DEFY Domestic Abuse; Individual & Family Counseling Program; Praxis Employee Assistance Program; Youth2Youth 4 Change; and

The Neighborhood Resilience Project. For more information about Family Services, visit www.familyservices1.org.

Family Services is a funded partner of United Way Blackhawk Region and United Way of Green County.

The mission of Family Services of Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois, Inc. is to restore, sustain, and enhance the lives of members of the community by providing an array of empowering services that focus on prevention, advocacy, case management, education, counseling and therapy.

Scam phone calls identifying as deputies from Rock County Sheriff's Office

The Rock County Sheriff's Office has been made aware of additional recent fraudulent telephone calls to citizens where a male caller identifies himself as Deputy Sam Billings with the Rock County Sheriff's Office Fraud Department. The caller asks to check accounts to make sure there is no fraudulent activity. These phone calls are obviously fraudulent in nature, and we want to continue to ensure the public at no time will the Rock County Sheriff's Office or any of its representatives call people asking to

check their accounts.

The Rock County Sheriff's Office was also made aware of another fraudulent phone call from a caller claiming to be Deputy Hall from the Columbia County Sheriff's Office. The male caller stated the reporting person had failed to appear for jury duty in Columbia County. The caller stated warrants were issued through the Rock County Sheriff's Office for failing to appear for jury duty. The Columbia County Sheriff's Office has been made aware of this activity.

The Rock County Sheriff's

Office encourages the public to let their family and friends know about these scam telephone calls. Anyone receiving calls of this nature should report it to the Rock County Communication Center by calling 608-757-2244.

As a friendly reminder, people should always use caution and be reminded not to give out any personal identifying information, credit card or banking information, pay monies or purchase gift cards unless they can verify it's from a trusted source.

Community Action news and events

Courageous Conversations

Courageous Conversations, a monthly virtual racial justice discussion co-sponsored by Community Action, the Diversity Action Team of Rock County, and YWCA Rock County, will be on Monday, March 27, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

This month's Courageous Conversation will be hosted and moderated by Community Action's very own Marc Perry Register in advance to participate. The topic is "Childcare is a Social Justice Issue."

Who can afford to send their children to daycare? Who are the workers, and can they afford to work there? How do our businesses and communities prioritize quality, affordable childcare? Childcare is an issue of gender, racial, and economic justice. Childcare as a social justice issue raises questions like these about unequal investment in early childhood development, the devaluation of the people who care for our children – many of whom are women of color – and the economic stress on the care workforce and our families the longer we fail to address the crisis. Join us as we discuss the intersectionality of childcare, race, and gender.

To register for the discussion (newly each month), please go to: us02web.zoom.us/j/809yA_9UtrSITanxIFxM-2VsrZ2YIZR_tQj9-SjwyUh-jpxgd-OvUQ.

An unmoderated 30 minutes will begin at 7 p.m.

Just to remind everyone – the agreements for Courageous Conversations are: stay engaged, experience discomfort, speak your truth and expect and accept non-closure.

Women Empowering Women forum

The Merrill Community Center, a program of Community Action, and Advia Credit Union are partnering to host the Women Empowering Women forum on Tuesday, March 28, at 1428 Wisconsin Ave., Beloit, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Speakers will discuss understanding investments, provide a guide to build financial stability and more.

Child care is available. Food will be provided. Gift card raffles taking place. No registration is required.

Please call 608-314-4825 with any questions.

Workshop series

A series of seven free workshops called "Eating Smart – Being Active" for parents/

caregivers of young children, presented by the UW-Extension Food Wise program at the Merrill Community Center, 1428 Wisconsin Ave., Beloit, will run Mondays starting April 3 through May 15 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The workshops will teach about how to improve the health and health of your family. Each week participants will receive a kitchen utensil, plus upon completion, will also receive a cookbook and either a crockpot or electric skillet. Make and taste a recipe each week during the classes.

Any questions can be directed to Julie Fuelleman at 608-728-6174.

Healthy Living with Diabetes

Healthy Living with Diabetes, a weekly series of workshops for adults age 60 and up with diabetes or pre-diabetes, will be hosted by the ADRC of Rock County and WI Institute for Healthy Aging at the Merrill Community Center, 1428 Wisconsin Ave., Beloit, Wednesdays starting April 12 through May 17, from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

This researched and proven workshop is designed to help adults with Type 2 diabetes learn skills and increase their confidence to manage their diabetes. People with pre-diabetes, Type 1, or caregivers are also welcome to join.

These small group workshops are led by two trained facilitators and meet for two and a half hours once a week for six weeks. The workshop does not replace existing treatments but serves to compliment a participant's current medical plan.

Topics include: What is diabetes; Sharing and problem-solving; setting short-term goals; healthy eating; meal planning and reading nutrition labels; tips for exercising; stress and depression management; monitoring blood sugars; preventing low blood sugar; managing difficult emotions; preventing or delaying complications; working with and communicating more effectively with family, friends, and medical providers.

People who have taken the workshop show better health and increased confidence in managing their diabetes, improvements in blood sugar levels and A1C, decrease in health distress and hypoglycemia, minimize the adverse effects of diabetes, and fewer doctor and emergency room visits and fewer hospitalizations.

There is a suggested donation of \$15, and it includes a "Living a Healthy Life" book.

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Changing Midwest marijuana landscape impacts Wisconsin

BY WISCONSIN POLICY FORUM

Since late 2019, consumption and sales of recreational marijuana have begun in two of Wisconsin’s neighboring states, while a third appears poised to legalize the substance soon.

Policy deliberations in Wisconsin have stalled, allowing time to learn from other states’ experience, but also forestalling the chance to collect some tax revenue and write regulations even as residents can now easily bring the drug back across the border.

As of January 2023, three out of every ten Wisconsin residents above the age of 21 live within an hour’s drive of a legally-operating, recreational marijuana dispensary. When that zone is expanded to a 75-minute drive, 50% of all Wisconsinites of legal age (about 2.16 million individuals) can drive to a recreational dispensary, including all residents of major cities like Milwaukee and Madison (see Figure 1).

As recently as November 2019, those numbers were zero. Both Michigan (2018) and Illinois (2019) have passed laws legalizing marijuana, with Michigan opening its first recreational dispensaries in December 2019 and Illinois stores debuting in January 2020. Since then, more than 100 locations in Illinois and 600 locations in Michigan have begun sales. Meanwhile, Minnesota lawmakers have legalized marijuana for medical purposes and appear poised to approve recreational use of the drug by the end of the year.

In Wisconsin, however, bills to legalize marijuana for any purpose have repeatedly stalled. While advisory referenda on marijuana legalization have passed by wide margins in a number of communities, many lawmakers here remain skeptical of legalizing medical marijuana and flatly opposed to legalization for recreational use.

The Wisconsin Policy Forum takes no position on marijuana legalization for either medical or recreational purposes. However, in recent years, we have sought to add context to this debate by comparing marijuana policy in Milwaukee to other U.S. cities, reviewing Milwaukee’s marijuana arrest trends and implications, and assessing the impacts of statewide marijuana legalization proposals in Wisconsin.

In this report, we briefly

review the changing marijuana legalization landscape in the Midwest and summarize Michigan’s and Illinois’ experiences. While the possession and usage of marijuana is still illegal in Wisconsin and federally, it may be increasingly difficult to enforce those laws over time or to prevent Wisconsinites from easily buying marijuana, as dispensaries continue to crop up near the state’s borders. In fact, new data from Illinois show that as much as one-third of the sales in that state are to visitors from other states, including Wisconsin.

Marijuana in the Midwest

Via ballot referendum, Michigan residents passed the Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana [sic] Act in a November 2018 voter referendum by a margin of 56% to 44%, making it the first state in the Midwest (and 10th overall) to legalize marijuana for recreational consumption. It had been legal for medical purposes in the state since 2008.

Shortly thereafter, Illinois became the second Midwest state (and 11th overall) to legalize marijuana, but the first state nationwide to do so not through a ballot initiative, but by an action taken by the state legislature. Medical marijuana had been legal in the state since 2013. Along with this change in the legal status of the substance, laws in both Illinois and Michigan created a policy framework for marijuana, including (but not limited to) possession limits, taxes, licensing rules, and provisions for local governments to opt out of the retail program.

Minnesota has had medical marijuana provisions in place since 2014, and as of last year, edible products with low amounts of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC, the compound in marijuana which produces a “high” feeling) have become legal. However, House File 100 – which would legalize marijuana for recreational purposes in the state – passed the first of many potential committee hurdles in January of this year, and Governor Tim Walz has signaled that recreational marijuana legalization will be included in his state budget proposal. Given that Minnesota’s Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) Party – which includes the author of HF 100 and the governor – now controls both legislative houses, it appears likely

that a third Wisconsin neighbor will legalize recreational marijuana in 2023.

Michigan’s Experience

Michigan’s law allows any state resident ages 21 and over to possess up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana and grow up to 12 plants at home. On top of the state sales tax of 6%, recreational marijuana is subject to a 10% excise tax. While the law went into effect in December 2018, the first recreational dispensary did not open in Michigan until December 1, 2019.

In the first month that the state tracked sales of recreational marijuana (December 2019), Michigan consumers purchased just under \$7 million of the substance. Just three years later, as of December 2022, sales of recreational marijuana have increased by a factor of nearly 30, reaching their highest single month total of \$208.3 million (see Figure 2) – or nearly 368,000 pounds of marijuana solids and just over 392,000 fluid ounces of liquid products. Michiganders – and those travelling to the state – purchased over \$2 billion of recreational marijuana products in 2022, almost quadrupling the 2020 total of just over \$510 million.

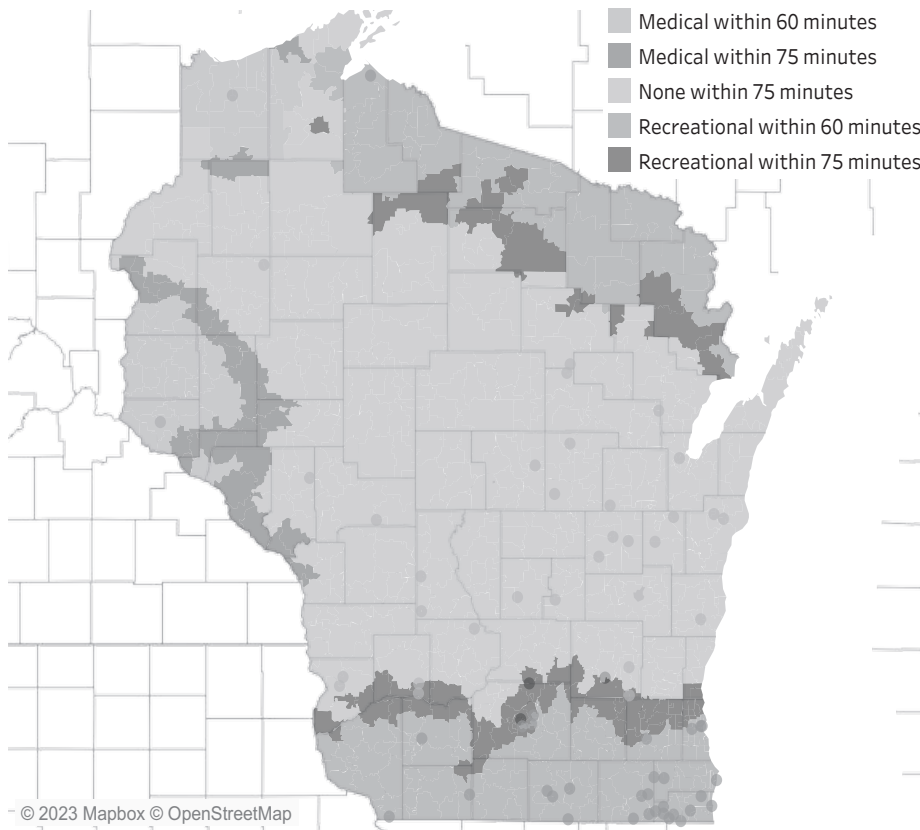
One explanation for the vast expansion of recreational marijuana purchases in Michigan has been growth in the number of municipalities that allow for its sale. The state tracks the number of municipalities that opt in, or out, of allowing retail outlets to conduct operations within the recreational program. In October 2020 – the first month for which data are publicly available – just 78 municipalities had opted into the program, compared to 1,409 that opted out. By December 2022, the opt-in number had risen by 65.4% to 129 municipalities, while the number opting out had shrunk to 1,378. Accordingly, the number of active licenses for retail locations for sales of the substance rose from just six in the first month of legalization to 609 in December 2022; on average, in 2022, about 15 new retail locations became active each month in the state.

In fiscal year (FY) 2021, Michigan collected upwards of \$111 million (about \$11 per state resident) from the 10% recreational marijuana

See MARIJUANA, Page 4

Figure 1: Most Wisconsinites Can Drive to a Dispensary

Location of Wisconsin residents w/in driving distance of a marijuana dispensary, by Zip Code



Sources: Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Michigan Cannabis Industry Association, Minnesota Department of Health. Mapping from smappen.com.



April 4, 2023 City of Brodhead Referendum

THE QUESTION AS IT WILL APPEAR ON THE BALLOT

“Under State Law, the increase in the levy of the City of Brodhead is 1.182% , which results in a levy of \$2,031,620. Shall the City of Brodhead be allowed to exceed this limit and increase the levy for the next fiscal year, 2024, for the purpose of funding increased operating expenses such as Public Safety, Public Works, Parks and Rec, Library and EMS Services, by a total of 19.689% which results in a levy of \$2,431,620, and on an ongoing basis, include the increase of \$400,000 for each fiscal year going forward?”

WHAT HAPPENS IF MAJORITY VOTE “YES”

If the referendum is approved by a majority of the voters, the City of Brodhead will be able to keep the same level of services and amenities that citizens have grown up with in Brodhead.

PROPERTY TAX IMPACT		
\$400,000 increase starting with December 2023 Property Tax Bills		
ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUE	ESTIMATED TAX INCREASE GREEN COUNTY	ESTIMATED TAX INCREASE ROCK COUNTY
\$100,000	\$172 (\$14.33 per month)	\$196 (\$16.33 per month)
\$200,000	\$344 (\$28.66 per month)	\$392 (\$32.66 per month)

*Average home in the City of Brodhead is \$161,000

WHAT HAPPENS IF MAJORITY VOTE “NO”

If the referendum is rejected by a majority of voters, the city will be faced with difficult decisions about how to address the shortfalls. A rejection of the referendum would have a negative impact on services such as the public pool, recreational sports, the Library, police coverage, EMS wait times, Senior Center services, and future capital expenditures.

REFERENDUM Q&A

Q. What has the City of Brodhead done over the last five years to cut costs?

A. Every department has already cut costs and fine tuned their budget down to the bare essentials to operate.

5- Year Actual	2017	2022	Difference	Percentage
General Government	\$469,365	\$366,314	-\$103,051	-21.96%
Police	\$1,406,004	\$1,379,189	-\$26,815	-1.91%
Public Works	\$539,272	\$430,119	-\$109,153	-20.24%
Parks and Rec	\$297,190	\$254,283	-\$42,907	-14.44%

Q. Where has all the money they cut gone?

A. With Inflation, fuel, cost of materials, and everything the City of Brodhead contracts out for, has gone up significantly. A couple of the biggest expenses are listed below.

5-Year Actual	2017	2022	Difference	Percentage
EMS/Fire Protection	\$160,192	\$450,721 (2023)	\$290,529	181.36%
Refuse/Trash Services	\$208,769	\$259,478	\$50,709	24.29%

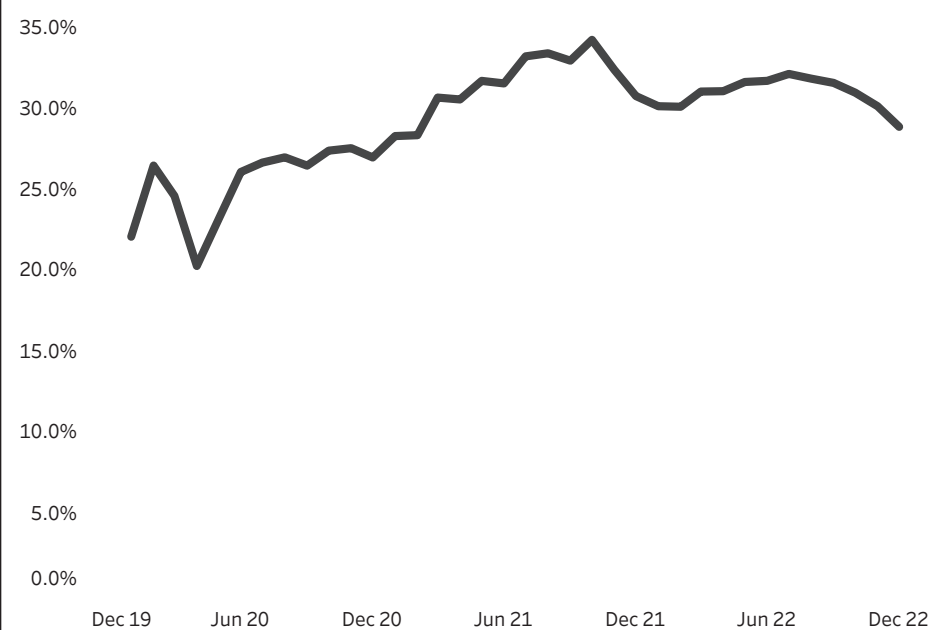
Q. What is the Taxing Jurisdiction Breakout for the City of Brodhead?

Total of Both Counties	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Green County	\$883,507	\$895,105	\$943,365	\$964,738	\$1,025,873	\$1,029,515
Rock County	\$31,366	\$32,776	\$34,281	\$33,829	\$35,158	\$35,321
Brodhead School District	\$1,449,785	\$1,421,741	\$1,478,406	\$1,536,341	\$1,405,132	\$1,620,136
Blackhawk Tech	\$205,041	\$197,466	\$207,045	\$208,475	\$215,657	\$204,400
City TIF	\$80,855	\$92,392	\$119,094	\$125,769	\$153,127	\$138,460
City	\$1,833,761	\$1,799,820	\$1,880,081	\$1,920,405	\$1,980,576	\$2,015,570
Total	\$4,484,315	\$4,439,300	\$4,662,272	\$4,789,557	\$4,815,522	\$5,043,402

Authorized and paid for the City of Brodhead

Figure 3: Out-of-State Purchasers A Key Source of Revenue

Percentage of recreational marijuana sales in Illinois to out-of-state residents, by month



• Marijuana

(Continued from page 3)

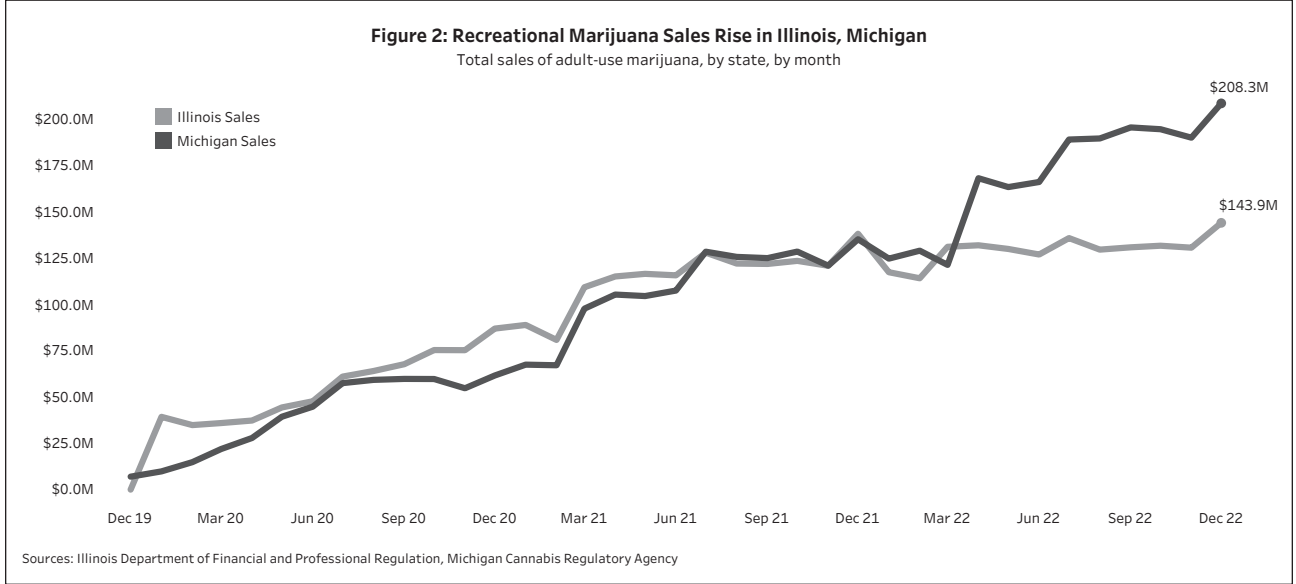
excise tax. Including prior revenues held in the state's marijuana regulation fund, Michigan had a total of \$172 million to distribute in FY 2021, of which \$42.2 million was allocated to municipalities and counties, and \$49.3 million was provided to both the state's School Aid Fund for K-12 education and its Transportation Fund.

The widespread availability of legal marijuana in Michigan is still very likely being undercut by a black market. In 2020, researchers with the Anderson Economic Group estimated that only about 15% of total demand for cannabis in the state was being met by recreational stores, while much larger segments were met through illicit sales and recreational home cultivation (39%) or caregiver and medical home cultivation (30%). While the exponential growth in retail locations since 2020 has almost certainly curbed some of the illicit market, it has not disappeared.

Still, according to the state's Cannabis Regulatory Agency, per ounce average retail flower (the smokable part of the cannabis plant) prices dropped by nearly 50% from September 2021 to September 2022, from \$204 to \$110. Further downward pressure on recreational marijuana prices may lure buyers away from illicit markets.

Illinois' Experience

Illinois' Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act was signed into law by Governor J.B. Pritzker in June 2019, and the first recreational dispensaries in the state opened on the first day of 2020. Illinois



residents above the age of 21 may possess up to 30 grams of marijuana flower, five grams of concentrate, and 500 milligrams of marijuana in an infused product. Unlike Michigan, possession limits differ for non-state residents, who may only possess half of those amounts.

Illinois' tax structure is also different – and significantly more complex – than that of Michigan. In addition to the state's 6.25% sales tax and up to 3.5% in local sales taxes, recreational marijuana is subject to a 7% gross receipts tax. On top of that, an excise tax is applied based on the type of product: 10% for flower or products with less than 35% THC; 20% for any products infused with cannabis (i.e. “edibles”); and 25% for flower or products with more than 35% THC.

Like Michigan, sales of recreational marijuana have risen rapidly in Illinois. In the first month of legalization

(January 2020), \$39.2 million of the substance was purchased. By December 2022, that total had nearly quadrupled to \$143.9 million (see Figure 2). In 2022, Illinois dispensaries sold \$1.55 billion of recreational marijuana.

Because Illinois has a different legal possession limit for in-state and out-of-state residents, the state tracks total sales by consumer residence. In each month since June 2020, between 25% and 35% of all recreational marijuana sold in Illinois was purchased by out-of-state residents, peaking at a high of 34.2% in October 2021 (see Figure 3). It has since declined slightly, as recreational marijuana became legal in Missouri and vastly expanded in Michigan. Still, throughout 2022, \$479.2 million in recreational marijuana was purchased in Illinois by individuals who did not live in the state.

Estimates for the per-

centage of out-of-state sales going to residents of each state are not available, but of Illinois' bordering states without legal recreational marijuana – Iowa, Indiana, Kentucky, and Wisconsin – Wisconsin's major population centers of both Milwaukee and Madison are located closest to the Illinois border. This is especially true now that recreational marijuana became legal in Missouri and nearby St. Louis in December 2022.

State law dictates where Illinois must spend the revenue it gains from state taxes on the product. After being deposited in the state's Cannabis Regulation Fund, revenues must first cover administrative costs. Remaining revenue is then transferred to the General Revenue Fund (35%), the Criminal Justice Information Projects Fund within the state's R3 Program (25%), the Department of Health Services Community Services Fund (20%), the Budget Stabilization Fund (10%), the Local Government Distributive Fund (8%), and the Drug Treatment Fund (2%). In FY 2022, Illinois generated \$445.3 million in state taxes (or about \$35 per state resident) and an additional \$146.2 million in local tax revenue from marijuana sales, both of which were significant increases from FY 2021 collections.

What's next for Wisconsin

Wisconsin lawmakers have yet to introduce any legislation in this session to legalize marijuana for any purpose. While both Governor Tony Evers and legislative Democrats have said they want to legalize marijuana for both medical and recreational purposes, no movement is possible without the support of at least some Assembly and Senate Republicans.

Earlier this year, Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu said that the Senate Republican Caucus was getting closer to supporting medical marijuana in some form. However, while Assembly Speaker Robin Vos has noted similar feelings in the past, he has said more recently that Assembly Republicans may be further away than anticipated, seeing medical marijuana as “a gateway to recreational marijuana.”

Possession of marijuana in any form in Wisconsin is illegal at the state as well as the federal level. That said, many local governments have made pushes to decriminalize the drug; for example, individuals can carry up to 28 grams of cannabis in Madison, although it is still illegal to buy and sell it. Other cities like Green Bay, Oshkosh, and Eau Claire have all eased restrictions on possession

in recent years. In 2021, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors lowered the fine for the possession of small amounts of marijuana (under 25 grams) and for smoking marijuana in public both to just \$1. However, law enforcement officers can still choose to enforce state marijuana statutes, which carry much higher fines.

So while marijuana is not available for legal purchase in Wisconsin, it is sold at retail locations less than a mile from the state border in East Dubuque and South Beloit, Illinois. Meanwhile, in some Wisconsin localities it is legal to possess and consume it – but it is still illegal to do so under state and federal law. This combination of factors makes for a complicated legal and regulatory environment.

Changes to state law in Illinois, Michigan, and potentially Minnesota mean that Wisconsinites who have been unwilling to purchase the drug on the black market now have a route towards marijuana consumption that, at least in some jurisdictions, they may see as quasi-legal or at least less risky. For now, at least, other states and communities are receiving a financial benefit as a result of such purchases while Wisconsin still must confront many of the public health and public safety challenges that may emerge without any enhanced revenue.

As with the use of other substances, marijuana use may impact health, crime, and road safety. Evidence of the impact of recreational marijuana legalization on these outcomes tends to be mixed. Still, there seems to be evidence that marijuana legalization may increase the prevalence of car crashes and fatal injuries, including anecdotes from Michigan. Lawmakers may wish to take these studies into consideration as they write and consider they draft and consider marijuana legislation, and they should pay attention as new studies emerge in states that have legalized marijuana within the last few years, such as Illinois and Michigan.

While the law in Wisconsin has not changed greatly, the market for marijuana in the state undeniably has through the actions of neighboring states. Each side in the legal and ideological debate – both supporters and opponents of legalization – should factor these on-the-ground changes into their future deliberations.

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Gov. Evers appoints Sarah Godlewski to Secretary of State

Secretary La Follette retiring after serving more than 40 years in office

Gov. Tony Evers announced on March 17 that he is appointing former State Treasurer Sarah Godlewski to Secretary of State of Wisconsin.

The appointment fills a vacancy created by Secretary of State Doug La Follette's retirement, also effective as of March 17. La Follette was first elected as Secretary of State in 1974 and then again in 1982, holding the office for 11 consecutive terms spanning more than 40 years.

In a constitutional office that has been held by fewer than 30 individuals since 1848, Godlewski will be only the third woman in Wisconsin state history to serve as Secretary of State. Glenn Wise made Wisconsin state history as the first woman to serve in the position when she was appointed by former Gov. Walter J. Kohler Jr. in 1955. Vel Phillips was the second woman to serve in 1978, and she became the first woman ever to be elected, not appointed, to the position and also the first African American elected to statewide office in Wisconsin.

"Secretary of State La Follette's retirement after more than 40 years of state service leaves an incredibly important role to fill, and I want to thank him for his years of dedication to the people of Wisconsin throughout his long career," said Gov. Evers. "In a critical position that has seen no turnover in decades, maintaining continuity with a leader who's prepared and committed to fulfilling this office's constitutional obligations could not be more important – and there's no one more uniquely qualified or better suited for the job than Sarah."

Godlewski, who most re-



Sarah Godlewski

cently served as Wisconsin State Treasurer from 2019 to 2023 before deciding not to seek re-election to the office, is no stranger to state constitutional office roles and responsibilities.

In 2018, she led the fight to protect the constitutional office of the state treasurer and to "save the state's fiscal watchdog" as a constitutional amendment abolishing the office altogether was set to be put before Wisconsin voters for final approval. The effort was ultimately and soundly rejected by more than 60% of Wisconsin voters in April 2018. Later that year, in November 2018, she was elected to the office she helped save, winning her first-ever campaign for public office.

"The people of Wisconsin placed their trust and faith in Sarah's experience and values to serve as our state treasurer, and she'll bring those same qualities to her new role as Wisconsin's Secretary of State. Sarah will bring unparalleled leadership and vision as a tenacious advocate who's passionate about making smart, sound financial decisions that protect our state's future, and I'm excited to continue our work together over the next four years," Gov. Evers said.

The Wisconsin State Treasurer is a constitutional officer charged with helping manage state trust funds, executing certain financial instruments and checks, and promoting transparency within the unclaimed property program. As state treasurer, Godlewski worked to revitalize the treasurer's role

as the state's chief financial officer, pushing to restore confidence in the office's fiscal management and reinstate the responsibilities and powers that had been removed or transferred as part of the decades-long effort to slowly dismantle the office. In addition, she also helped launch a homeownership network designed to empower Wisconsinites to buy and stay in their homes and advocated for creating a child savings account program called 401(K)ids.

In 2019, Gov. Evers also appointed Godlewski to chair the Governor's Task Force on Retirement Security, created by Executive Order #45, charged with developing new strategies to address growing concerns for Wisconsin's aging population and lack of retirement savings and security, identify barriers to retirement savings and planning, and promote awareness about financial sustainability and solvency.

"It was a privilege to serve the people of Wisconsin as state treasurer for four years, and I am humbled that Gov. Evers has called upon me to serve as secretary of state," Godlewski said. "To become just the third woman in our state's history to hold this office is the honor of a lifetime. I know how important this role is and my responsibilities are, and I'm looking forward to getting to work."

The Wisconsin Secretary of State is a constitutional officer charged with maintaining official legislative and gubernatorial acts and affixing the Great Seal of Wisconsin to all official acts of the governor. Additionally, and importantly, the Secretary of State also serves on the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL), one of

Wisconsin's oldest agencies.

Godlewski brings unparalleled experience to BCPL, having already served on the board in her capacity as state treasurer. The BCPL, established by the Wisconsin Constitution, has several key responsibilities, including holding title to nearly 77,000 acres of school trust lands and managing four trust funds totaling more than \$1 billion in assets, including the Common School Fund, the net earnings of which are distributed annually to public school districts.

The daughter of two public school teachers, Godlewski is a fifth-generation Wis-

consinite, born and raised in Eau Claire, who learned at an early age the importance of public service. Prior to her time in state government, she worked for almost a decade at the Pentagon. She was co-founder of MaSa Partners, an impact investment firm that funds early-stage businesses; and a co-founder of WE Capital Fund, which empowers female entrepreneurs through financing opportunities. She ran in 2022 for the U.S. Senate, advocating for policies critical for Wisconsin families, including reproductive healthcare, affordable child care, and paid family leave.

Godlewski's appointment is effective as of March 18, and will fill the remainder of La Follette's four-year term ending in January 2027. La Follette's retirement letter is available to view online at content.gov-delivery.com/attachments/WIGOV/2023/03/17/file_attachments/2440386/La%20Follette%20Retirement%20Letter.pdf. Additional biographical details for La Follette and Godlewski are available in the 2021-22 Wisconsin Blue Book available online at docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lrb/blue_book/2021_2022/020_elected_officials.pdf.

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DNR accepting entries for 'Air, Air, Everywhere' poetry contest

Open to students in grades 3-5

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is now accepting entries from third to fifth graders for the Air, Air, Everywhere poetry contest.

Now in its 12th year, the annual DNR-sponsored contest is designed to raise awareness of the importance of good air quality in honor of Clean Air Month in May.

The DNR encourages teachers and parents to submit original poems and riddles created by their students. The three winning poets will have their work featured on the DNR website and social media channels.

Requirements

- Open to all third, fourth and fifth grade students in Wisconsin.

- Any form of original poetry or riddle is acceptable. Entry must be 200 words or less and describe air or the importance of clean air.

- Writing must be the original work of the student.

- Each entry must include the author's name, the name of the parent and teacher and the parent and teacher's email and phone number.

- Send entries to DNRAirEducation@wisconsin.gov.

- Deadline to submit entries is Friday, May 5. Contest entries will not be returned and will become the property of the contest sponsor.

The DNR's Air, Air Everywhere Teacher's Guide, available online at wdnr.widen.net/s/7bw6q8wxlz, includes 10 activities to get

students thinking about the air in Wisconsin.

As part of the "Where's the Air?" activity, students will complete simple sensory experiments to discover the characteristics of air and then write a poem or riddle describing air.

Be sure to check out the Wisconsin air quality facts and information guide to help students complete their riddles and poems. This resource is filled with facts on Wisconsin's air quality history and its current status to help students understand the state's continually improving air quality.

More information on the Air, Air, Everywhere Contest is available on the DNR website at dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/AirQuality/PoetryContest.html.

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Mrs. Malkow and the Middle School Quizbowl Team: Kennedy Zimmerman, Abigail Withrow, Brooke Mueller, Peyton Jordan, and Creed Speaker second place Anthony Fraley-Markley.

Brodhead's FFA and Ag Department have been busy

Conferences, contests, activities and hands-on learning

Here are some highlights from the season so far:

FFA

- This year we were in full swing at the Brodhead and Parkview FFA Food for America, educational event, hosted at Spring Grove Dairy.
- We hosted 446 fourth graders with a total of about 550 people on the farm. Schools hosted include Albany, Brodhead, Durand, Juda, Monroe, New Glarus, Parkview, and St. Victor Catholic.
- At the World Dairy Expo in October 2022, our Dairy Judging Team placed 55th out of 107 teams, with team members Emma Beutel, Kaylae Nehls and Maddie McGuire.
- Our Agronomy Team placed ninth out of 46 teams. The Team Forage Management Exam placed third, with Elly Harding, Kiara Quimby and Taetum Hoesly.
- We then headed to Indianapolis, Ind., for the National FFA Convention. Six students, Kaydence Demrow, Taetum Hoesly, Kiara Quimby, Maddie McGuire, Emma Nelson and Elly Harding, attended Industry Tours at the Albanese Candy Store, Ozark Fisheries, and the National FFA Center. They attended sessions and participated in the largest Agricultural Career show.
- Six students went to the Connect and I Am Conference in the Wisconsin Dells. This conference is presented by the National FFA to help ninth through 12th graders develop leadership skills, team building and confidence. Students



The Agronomy Team, from left: Kiara Quimby, Taetum Hoesly and Ellyana Harding.

attending included Kaydence Demrow, Maddie McGuire, Annelise Bethke, Jordan Menehan, Mara Meichtry and Leilah King.

In January 2023, the Middle School Quiz Bowl team, Brooke Mueller, Peyton Jordan, Abby Withrow and Kennedy Zimmerman, along with Anthony Fraley-Markley and Brooke Mueller, competed in the District Leadership Development Event at New Glarus High School.

They participated in Creed Speaking, a competition wherein FFA members recite the five paragraphs of the FFA Creed to judges.

The Quiz bowl Team advanced to the second last round and did an outstanding job! Anthony Fraley-Markley placed second overall in Creed Speaking. He will be competing at Sectional Speaking Contest on March 22 in Albany.

Though our FFA Week did get cut short due to two snow days, before the storm we had a chance to go on a field trip to the Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium in Dubuque Iowa. 18 students attended the trip and learned about the wild-

life that is near the Mississippi. They explored the saltwater aquarium and were able to pet some stingrays.

At the beginning of March, five middle school members attended the Fire Conference in Fennimore. This conference is presented by the State FFA officers for seventh through ninth grade students to learn more about the organization and how they can get involved. Students who attended were Anthony Fraley-Markley, Jenna Pinnow, Abby Withrow, Brooke Mueller and Peyton Jordan.

In February and into March the FFA Chapters are filling out applications for State Degrees, Proficiency applications and for the Career Development Events. We had one member fill out his State FFA Degree and will be awarded in June at the

See **BRODHEAD AG**, Page 7



•Brodhead ag (Continued from front page)

State FFA Convention, if accepted. We also had two members fill out their Proficiency Award Applications, Keegan Steinke in Sheep Production and Karson Miller in Diversified Ag Placement. These awards will be announced later in the spring and awarded in June at the State FFA Convention.

The students have been diligently preparing for career development conferences:

- On March 8, The Dairy Judging Team, Jordan Menehan, Annelise Bethke and

Maddie McGuire, competed.

- The Livestock Judging Team, CJ Streuly, Karson Miller, Keegan Steinke and Taetum Hoesly; and the Wildlife Team, Joey Brown, Jaxon Dooley, Dylan Lewis, Nolan Oliver and Joey Ross, competed at Janesville District CDE Contest. This contest sees if they can advance to state on April 27 at Madison.
- Our Wildlife Team placed third out of 20 teams, with Joey Ross placing sixth as an individual.

- The Wildlife Team and Agronomy Team will both be competing at State on April 27 at Madison.

Ag Department

Not only has FFA been busy, the Ag Department has many labs and learning experiences happening.

“All year the Middle School has been working on our Tower Garden, growing lettuce. We are hoping that we can grow enough lettuce to supply to the cafeteria for lunch,” explained FFA Advisor and

teacher, Jillian Malkow.

The high school students may enroll in many classes that will open their eyes to careers and life skills needed for a career in agriculture.

Classes offered in Brodhead include:

- Exploring Animals
- Exploring Plants and Soils
- Small Animal Science
- Large Animal Science ES and TC
- Plant Science
- Veterinary Science
- Natural Resource Management 1
- Natural Resource Management 2

Upcoming events

- March 22: Sectional LDE Contest, Anthony Fraley-Markley competing
- March 23-24: EDGE Conference, Stevens Point
- April 14: Midwest Horse Fair
- April 27: State CDE Contest Wildlife and Agronomy
- May 4-5: Plant Sale, 3:30 to 6 p.m.
- May 6: Plant Sale, 9 a.m.

- to 1 p.m.
- May 12: FFA Awards Banquet and Basket/Pie Auction, 6 p.m.
- May 13: Plant Sale, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- June 10: Brodhead FFA Alumni Garage Sale Day and Food Stand
- June 13-15: State FFA Convention
- June 24: Brodhead Family Fest FFA Alumni Food Stand
- June 25: Brodhead FFA Alumni Food Stand at Twilight in the Park



SUBMITTED PHOTO Brodhead Independent Register

The Brodhead and Parkview Food For America Event: all of the 446 fourth graders from Albany, Brodhead, Durand, Juda, Monroe Elementary, New Glarus and St. Victors attended, along with all of the Brodhead High School students (pictured here) that helped with the event.



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Back row, from left: Middle School Student Advisor Anthony Fraley-Makley, Sentinel CJ Streuly, Treasurer Joseph Brown, Advisor Mrs. Jillian Malkow. Front row: Reporter Kaydence Demrow, Secretary Ellyana Harding, President Kiara Quimby and Vice President Madeline McGuire.

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PARKVIEW FFA

Parkview FFA members receiving state degrees at convention

Steve Lutzke, the District Administrator, offers congratulations to the Parkview FFA members that are receiving their State FFA Degree at the Wisconsin State FFA Convention at the Alliant Energy Center in June.

To earn their State FFA Degree, members must complete a state approved Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Project, 360 hours of Ag Education, 25 hours of community service, and participated in five events above the chapter level.

• **Kassandra Clint:** Kassandra has been in FFA for six years and has served as the chapter's Sentinel, Treasurer, and Vice President. Over her six years, she has been a member of the state qualifying Floriculture Team, competed in the Job Interview Leadership Development Event Contest, and has attended the National and State FFA Conventions, the 212 and 360 Leadership Conferences, and represented the chapter at Halftime Conference. Kassandra's SAE Project was in Plant Science/Horticulture.

• **Jenna Hume:** Jenna has been in FFA for four years and has served as the chapter's Sentinel and Secretary. Jenna is a member of the Horse Evaluation Team, has attended 212 Conference, and worked alongside the State FFA Officers at the Section 5 Section Leadership Workshop. Jenna's SAE Project was in Equine Management.

Sarah Mabie: Sarah has been in FFA for five years. Sarah served as the chapter



SUBMITTED PHOTO Brodhead Independent Register

Out on another adventure, FFA members attended the FIRE Conference at Southwest Technical College in Fennimore. Our members had the opportunity to work directly with the WI State FFA officers to learn about all the opportunities available throughout their FFA Career.

Historian. She was a member of the Quiz Bowl Team and the Livestock Evaluation Team. Sarah attended the 212, FIRE, and EDGE Leadership Conferences, and has volunteered at the Wisconsin State Fair. Sarah's SAE Project was in Food Production/Processing.

• **Brynn Menke:** Brynn has

been in FFA for five years. She has attended the National FFA Convention and been a group leader for Food for America. Brynn has exhibited cattle and goats at the Rock County and Boone County Fairs. She was also a member of the Livestock Evaluation Team. Brynn's SAE Project was in Beef Cattle Manage-

ment.

• **Bridgette Neal:** Bridgette has been in FFA for six years. She has served as the Secretary, Vice President, and President of the chapter. She has attended the National FFA Convention, 212 and Halftime Leadership Conferences, and was a member of the Dairy Cattle Evaluation

Team. Bridgette has volunteered to work at the Farm Bureau Tent at the Rock County Fair and has volunteered at the Wisconsin State Fair. Bridgette's SAE Project was in Dairy Cattle Management.

• **Christina Stark:** Christina has been an FFA member for three years and has served as

the chapter Reporter for two years. Christina has been a member of the Ag. Mechanics CDE Team, has been a group leader for the Food for America Program, has taught stations on Peacocks and Chickens at Agriculture on the Hill, and has attended the Section 5 Officer Leadership Workshop. Christina's SAE Project was in Food Production and Processing.

It is appropriate that the FFA's logo is an owl, a time-honored emblem of knowledge and wisdom.

The community supports the FFA with donations of time, intelligence and money. Supporters include: Country Pride Meats – Clinton, Eric Komprood – Becks Hybrids, Farm City Elevator, Floral Expressions, Klitzman Seeds, Haberman Farms, Sew Many Threads and Zach Roth Farms.

The Parkview Agricultural Department offers the following courses:

- Agriscience Survey
- Agribusiness and Leadership
- Food Production and Processing
- Agricultural Department
- Wisconsin Outdoors
- Horticulture and Landscaping
- Large Animal Veterinary Science
- Small Animal Veterinary Science

Parkview received its FFA charter in 1947. During all these years, the members have had 15 advisors educating and preparing them for the future. Today, their advisor is Tjark Sattler.

What's in an emblem?

By Bev Flatt
WRITER WITH FFA.ORG

The FFA emblem is one of the most iconic images in the agricultural industry and dates back nearly 100 years. However, the creation of this emblem is shrouded in both history and mystery. While the current emblem features five icons representing the history, goals and ambition of the National FFA Organization, other symbols were considered throughout the years and could have changed everything from the patches on FFA jackets to the words spoken during opening ceremonies.

One alternative icon considered was the horn of plenty. According to the ancient Greeks, baby Zeus was cared for and fed by Amalthea when he broke off one of her horns. This horn began to emit a constant

supply of food for him. For these reasons, the horn of plenty became the symbol of prosperity, wealth and abundance.

Strong academic programs are a cornerstone to successful FFA chapters. This academic angle was meant to be represented by the lamp of knowledge. The lamp of knowledge is derived from the ancient Egyptian lamp, the same symbol used for the genie lamp in Disney's Aladdin. With an eternal flame of knowledge, the lamp often symbolizes academic excellence.

Long before the steel plow became popular, many farmers used a spade in their fields. The original FFA emblem was inspired by a young farmers' organization in Denmark called *Landøkonomisk Rejsebureau*, which showcased an owl sitting on top of a spade. While there is

very little collective symbolism with a spade, it is often associated with hard work.

Once it was decided to move forward with a plow instead of a spade, another major point of contention was whether the plow should be sitting on top of the ground or be in the ground. A plow as an object (sitting on top of the ground) represents the reaping of life. But the significance of plowing (in the ground) represented receiving truth.

One part of the emblem that is often overlooked is the eagle at the top. In early FFA history, the eagle was left off in preference for a simple circular image. Once the trademark of the emblem was secured, the eagle became a permanent feature. However, the

See EMBLEM, Back Page



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The FFA emblem is one of the most iconic images in the agricultural industry and dates back nearly 100 years.

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JUDA FFA



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Juda FFA members pose for a group photo. Front row (fromleft): Matthew McCullough (Sentinel), Aaron Makos (Treasurer), Jerzie Lerch (Reporter), Breanna Brooks (Vice President), Brilley Swedlund (Parliamentarian), Katie Nusbaum (President), Jackie Nusbaum (Secretary), and Mr. Lyne (Advisor). Second row: Anna Skoumal, Libby Jordan, Unity Masseur, Vanessa Liphart, Payton Hinton, Lexi Heimann, Katie Brooks, and Chad Mansfield. Third row: Christian Creuzer, Alivia Henning, Mary Riebe, Atlas Heimann, Aidan Lynaugh, Grace Melton, Abby Foster, Hunter Foster, and Micheal Hosch. Back row: Trinity Iverson, Corina Black, Anna Bartels, Phoenix Homan, Kameron Simpson, Kennedy Lerch, Trevhar Vanryswyk, Tucker Lynaugh, Noah Burchard, Christopher Roth, Easton Hess, and Lily Zimmerman.

Juda FFA members compete in state and national conventions

The Juda FFA has been active throughout the school year.

Many students exhibited at the Green County Fair, attended both National and State conventions, as well as various leadership conferences. Students have been busy with contests and

events. "We have seen success and leadership growth in our members," explained Joseph Lyne, Juda's FFA Advisor and teacher.

In the fall members competed in the Soil Judging Career Development Event at different contests around southern Wisconsin, and the

senior team was able to finish eighth place at the State Contest that was held in October 2022 in Fennimore.

This spring, members competed in Leadership Development events. At the district level, Aaron Makos competed in Employability Skills, Breanna Brooks in Extemporane-


ous Speaking, Kelsi Cameron in Creed Speaking, and Abby Foster in Discussion Meet. We also had a middle school Quiz Bowl team consisting of Noah Burchard, Josh McCullough, Tucker Lynaugh, Lily Zimmerman, and Kameron Simpson. Aaron Makos, Breanna Brooks, and Kelsi

Cameron all moved on to the sectional contest that was at Marshall on March 9. We will continue to compete in Career Development Events at both Janesville and UW-Platteville in the coming weeks.

On April 2 from 5 to 7 p.m., we will be hosting our FFA Alumni Blue and Gold

Night which will consist of a meal followed by a live auction and various raffles, with door prizes.


Tickets for this alumnus event will be sold ahead of time and can be purchased by contacting Joe Lyne of Juda School at lyne@judaschool.com.



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NATIONAL
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We would like to acknowledge the farmers and their families for the contributions and dedication they make in improving the quality of our daily lives.



Financial

(Continued from front page)

it for six years before moving to Blackhawk Technical College to educate professionals on how to teach their trade. “How can we financially change Milton?”

Melody Harvey, an assistant professor in the Department of Consumer Science at UW-Madison who studies the impact of student loan debt.

While noting how politicized education has become, D. Kevin Jordahl, the current business teacher at Milton High School, said “anyone looking at helping prepare young adults for their future would value and choose to make a class like this class happen. I think this would be a win-win for everyone involved.”

The state legislature is responsible for making changes to graduation requirements, said Chris Bucher, a spokesman for the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. The legislature also could set aside funds specifically for the class.

The issue has been percolating.

In the last legislative session and again in the current one, state Sen. Joan Ballweg (R-Markesan), a former 1st-grade teacher, said she has introduced a bill that would require students to earn school credit in personal financial literacy to graduate.

But groups including the Wisconsin Association of School Boards and the Wisconsin Rural Schools Alliance maintain that the measure creates an unfunded mandate, and the bill so far has

failed to advance.

‘Throw(ing) money at the problem’

Sitting atop a historic, \$7-billion surplus, former science teacher and school principal Gov. Tony Evers has proposed setting aside \$5 million for a competitive grant program, for which schools can apply, that would fund financial literacy classes.

“Our “Do the Math” initiative will help ensure our kids have the tools and skills to make smart budgeting and financial decisions to prepare for their future,” the governor said in his State of the State address in January. The program is included in the Democratic governor’s two-year state budget proposal.

But the Republican-controlled legislature holds the power to compose whatever state budget it wants. Evers can edit it slightly or veto the entire document.

The legislature’s powerful Joint Committee on Finance, which the Republican majority controls, will create the budget over the coming months.

State Sen. Duey Stroebel (R-Saukville), a committee vice-chair, said in an email that, “I support financial literacy, however, I have reservations about state curriculum mandates because I believe curriculum decisions are best made at the local school board level.”

Ballweg, also a member of the Joint Finance Committee, said in

an email that the governor’s plan “throws money at the problem” and “does not require these important courses to be taught.”

“While I agree that financial literacy is something that needs to be taught to Wisconsin students, I disagree with the steps outlined in the “Do the Math” initiative,” she said.

Asked why her bill does not fund the mandate, Ballweg responded that she is working with organizations such as Next Gen Personal Finance, banks and credit unions, to support paying for the courses.

She added that the state only requires 15 specific credits for high school graduation — courses that include English, history, math and science.

“The addition of this half credit will not change how Wisconsin schools are funded,” she said, adding that funding for schools is based on their student population, not the number of courses taught.

Dan Rossmiller, government relations director for the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, took exception with that characterization.

“The fact that Wisconsin schools are funded on their student population means they receive no additional funding when they are mandated to provide additional required classes, even if doing so increases their costs,” he said in an email. “In other words, a school’s funding is matched to students, not costs.”

“If a school gets new costs



SUBMITTED PHOTO *Brodhead Independent Register*

Melody Harvey, an assistant professor in the Department of Consumer Science at UW-Madison who studies the impact of student loan debt.

mandated on it (such as having to hire a new teacher or buy new curricular materials),” Rossmiller continued, “this means they have no additional money to cover those costs. Essentially, they must take

money from elsewhere in their budget to cover those additional costs.”

The Badger Project is a nonpartisan, citizen-supported journalism nonprofit in Wisconsin.

Legal Notices

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT GREEN COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION

U.S. BANK NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION NOT IN ITS
INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT
SOLELY AS LEGAL TITLE
TRUSTEE FOR RMTP TRUST,
SERIES 2021 BKM-TT-V
Plaintiff,

DUANE R YAEGER, SHELLEY
A YAEGER, ET. AL.
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Case No. 2022CV000045
Case Code No. 30404
Foreclosure of Mortgage

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that
by virtue of a judgment of fore-
closure entered on May 2, 2022,
in the amount of \$89,025.09, the
Sheriff of Green County will sell
the described premises at public
auction as follows:

DATE/TIME: April 6, 2023 at
09:00 AM

TERMS: By bidding at the Sher-
riff's Sale, the prospective buy-
er is consenting to be bound
by the following terms: 1) 10%
down in cash, cashier's check,
or bank-certified funds made
payable to the Green County
Clerk of Court; 2) Sold "as is"
and subject to all legal liens and
encumbrances; 3) Buyer to pay
applicable Wisconsin Real Es-
tate Transfer Tax, costs of deed
recording and all costs of sale
within 10 days of confirmation of
sheriff's sale. Failure to pay bal-
ance due will result in forfeiture
of bid deposit to Plaintiff; and 4)
Bidders not a party to this action
are subject to the requirements
of Wisconsin Statute Section
846.155.

PLACE: At the Green County
Justice Center - Ground Floor
Conference Room located at
2841 6th Street, Monroe, WI
53566

PROPERTY LEGAL
DESCRIPTION:
OUTLOT 63-D OF THE 1962
REVISED ASSESSOR'S PLAT
OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW
GLARUS, GREEN COUNTY,
WISCONSIN

TAX KEY NO.: 0315.0000

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 600
8TH AVENUE, NEW GLARUS,
WI 53574

William Patascil

Attorney for Plaintiff
Marinosci Law Group, P.C.
16535 W. Bluemound Rd.,
Suite 333
Brookfield, WI 53005
Telephone: (414) 831-9729
Facsimile: (920) 221-7719
MLGWisconsin-ALL@
mlg-defaultlaw.com

Dated this ___ day of ___, 2023.

Green County Sheriff's
Department

The Independent Register
3/8, 3/15, 3/22/2023
WNAXLP 433707

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT GREEN COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE
ESTATE OF
JANET A. MORGAN
Deceased.

Notice to Creditors

(Informal Administration)
Case No. 23-PR-16

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal
administration was filed.

2. The decedent, with date
of birth December 8, 1931 and
date of death January 18, 2023,
was domiciled in Green County,
State of Wisconsin, with a mail-
ing address of 703 Green Street,
Brodhead, WI 53520.

3. All interested persons
waived notice.

4. The deadline for filing a
claim against the decedent's es-
tate is June 13, 2023.

5. A claim may be filed at
the Green County Register in
Probate, Green County Justice
Center, 2841 6th Street, Mon-
roe, Wisconsin.

/s/ Faun Marie Phillipson
Circuit Court Judge
March 9, 2023

Attorney Amanda M. Fields
Schluesche Fields S.C.,
250 N. 18th Avenue, Suite 106
Monroe, WI 53566
608-325-2500
Bar Number 1094267

The Independent Register
3/15, 3/22, 3/29/2023
WNAXLP 434309

NOTICE OF PUBLIC TEST Village of Orfordville

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
in accordance with Section 5.84,
Wisconsin Statutes, that a test
will be conducted on the elec-
tronic voting equipment to be

utilized in the Village of Orford-
ville for the April 4, 2023 Spring
Election. This test is being con-
ducted to ascertain that the
equipment will correctly count
the votes cast for all candidates.
The test shall be conducted by
processing a pre-audited group
of ballots so marked as to record
a predetermined number of valid
votes for each candidate. The
test will be held at 10:00 a.m. at
the Village Hall at 303 E. Beloit
Street on Tuesday, March 28,
2023. This test is open to the
public. Persons desiring instruc-
tions for the use of the electronic
voting machines are welcome to
attend.

Sherri Waege
Village Clerk

The Independent Register
3/22/2023
WNAXLP 434494

TOWN OF SPRING VALLEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC TEST

Notice is Hereby Given in accor-
dance with Section 5.84, Wis-
consin Statutes, that a test will
be conducted on the electronic
voting equipment to be utilized
in the Town of Spring Valley for
the spring election to be held on
April 4, 2023

The test will be held at the Or-
fordville Fire District meeting
room, 173 North Wright Street,
Orfordville, WI at 10:00 a.m. on
Friday, March 31, 2023. This
test is open to the public. Per-
sons desiring instructions for the
use of electronic voting equip-
ment are welcome to attend.

For questions on upcoming
elections visit <https://myvote.wi.gov>. Town of Spring Valley
residents can contact the clerk
at (608) 897-4288 or email tsv-clerk@gmail.com.

Dela Ends, Clerk

The Independent Register
3/22/2023
WNAXLP 434531

NOTICE TO CITY OF BRODHEAD RESIDENTS PUBLIC TEST OF ELECTRONIC VOTING EQUIPMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that a PUBLIC TEST of the au-
tomatic tabulating equipment
will be held on **Tuesday, March
28, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.** at City
Hall located at 1111 W. 2nd Av-
enue. This equipment will be
used at the **Spring Primary** to
be held on **Tuesday, April 4,**

2023. This public test is open to
the general public and includes
a demonstration of the Image-
Cast Evolution (ICE) electronic
voting system.

Nikolai Wahl
City of Brodhead, City Clerk

The Independent Register
3/22/2023
WNAXLP 434535

Village of Orfordville Notice of Public Hearing

The Planning Commission
of the Village of Orfordville will
meet on Wednesday, April 5,
2023 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss a
variance request from NG Mill
Valley Land, LLC. Applicant
Zach Knutson is requesting a
variance for front and rear yard
setbacks for Lots 36, 37, 38, and
39 in the Mill Valley Subdivision.
Current ordinance requires a 25
foot setback for both the rear
and front. Knutson is request-
ing to be able to have a rear set-
back of twenty one feet and front
setback of 20 feet. The request
is due to the relocation of the
drainage pond which made the
lots not deep enough to accom-
modate traditional ranch type
design. The Planning Commis-
sion will make a recommenda-
tion to the Village Board at their
Regular Board Meeting on Mon-
day, April 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Sherri Waege
Village Clerk

The Independent Register
3/22/2023
WNAXLP 434590

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT GREEN COUNTY

BEVERLY J. SLACK,
107 10th Street,
Brodhead, WI 53520,

Plaintiff,

-vs-

JEFFREY M. HARMS,
1407 E. 6th Avenue,
Brodhead, WI 53520,

Defendant

Small Claims
Summons By Publication
Case No. 23-SC-90
Code: 31004

Small Claims Summons
By Publication

TO: JEFFREY M. HARMS
1407 E. 6th Avenue
Brodhead, WI 53520

You are being sued by Bever-

ly J. Slack in the Small Claims
Court for Green County, Wis-
consin, at the Green County
Justice Center, 2841 6th Street,
Monroe, Wisconsin 53566, tele-
phone 608-328-9433. A hearing
will be held at 10:00 a.m. on
Monday, April 3, 2022, in the
Branch 1 Courtroom. If you do
not appear, a Judgment may be
given to the person suing you. A
copy of the Amended Summons
and Complaint has been mailed
to you at the address above.

Dated this 14th day of March,
2023.

SCHLUESCHE FIELDS S.C.,
Attorneys for Plaintiff,
Beverly J. Slack

By: Electronically signed by
Todd W. Schluesche
State Bar No. 1024392

Address:
250 N. 18th Avenue, Suite 106
Monroe, WI 53566
Phone: 608-325-2500

The Independent Register
3/22/2023
WNAXLP 434681

NOTICE OF TESTING TOWN OF AVON

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
there will be a public test of
electronic voting equipment on
Thursday, March 30th, 2022 at
9:30 a.m. at the Avon Town Hall,
16513 W. Beloit Newark Road,
Brodhead, WI, which will be
used at the Spring Election on
April 4th, 2023.

Stephanie Schwartzlow
Avon Town Clerk

The Independent Register
3/22/2023
WNAXLP 434682

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF BRODHEAD CONDITIONAL LAND USE APPLICATION

Please take notice that a **Pub-
lic Hearing** will be held during
the April Plan Commission meet-
ing scheduled to begin at 6:00
p.m. on Monday, April 3, 2023,
in the Brodhead City Hall to con-
sider the following application:

An application for a Condition-
al Land Use Permit by Midwest
LLC, to build and operate a Dol-
lar General store located at **par-
cel 210 01912501 (vacant lot
South East Corner of Hwy 11
& Hwy 104).** THIS PROPERTY
IS CURRENTLY, ZONED C-2,
HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL.

All persons, their agents or attor-
neys will be given an opportunity
to be heard in relation thereto.

Nikolai Wahl
City Clerk

The Independent Register
3/22, 3/29/2023
WNAXLP 434696

Town of Spring Valley Planning & Zoning Meeting Monday, March 27th, 2023 At the Orfordville Fire Station 173 North Wright Street, Orfordville, WI 6:00 PM

Agenda:

1. Call to Order

2. Reading and approval of min-
utes

3. Old business: A.) Condition-
al Use Permit (CUP) for Jesus
Mata & Jill Clark-Mata - 14315
W State Rd 11, Parcel 6-18-130.
for a Non-Agricultural Business/
Home Occupation. B.) Frontier
Building Permit for TSV r.o.w.
work

4. New business: A.) House
sunporch addition - parcel lines
mapping from parcel's legal
description - with Rock County
mapping & surveyor review for
David Draves, 2921 S. Potter
Rd., Orfordville, WI 53576 - Par-
cel # 6-18-115.2

5. Building permits:

6. Audience communication

7. Adjournment

Chris Duemler
Chairman

The Independent Register
3/22/2023
WNAXLP 434773

TOWN OF DECATUR NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given that the
Public Test of the voting equip-
ment to be used at the **Spring
Election** on Tuesday, April 4,
2023 for the Town of Decatur
will be conducted at the Deca-
tur Town Hall, 1408 14th Street,
Brodhead, WI on **TUESDAY,
MARCH 28, 2023 AT 10:00AM.**

Sandra K McManus
Clerk/Treasurer

The Independent Register
3/22/2023
WNAXLP 434796

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for sale

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Write your ad below, One Word Per Box, be sure to include your price

Ads will not be accepted without the following information. Only one free ad per month.

YOUR NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

DNR asks public for help with frog and toad calling surveys

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources asks the public to participate in the annual Wisconsin Frog and Toad Survey to help document frog and toad breeding calls throughout the state this spring and summer.

The Wisconsin Frog and Toad Survey was formally launched in 1984 amid concerns about declining pop-

ulations of several species of frogs. Since then, citizen scientists have helped DNR conservation biologists better define the distribution, status and population trends of all 12 frog and toad species in Wisconsin.

“The DNR is once again looking for night-loving volunteers, who we lovingly call ‘froggers,’ to lend their ears to monitor and help

conserve frogs and toads in all corners of Wisconsin,” said Andrew Badje, the DNR conservation biologist who coordinates the DNR’s Wisconsin Frog and Toad Survey.

Volunteers can participate in three ways:

1. Traditional Wisconsin Frog and Toad Survey – This option requires volunteers to drive along a pre-set route

for three nights of survey effort, once each in early spring, late spring and early summer. Volunteers make 10 stops per night, listening for five minutes at each site, documenting the species heard calling and the relative abundance of each species. See available 2023 survey routes at wiatri.net/inventory/frogtoadsurvey/Volunteer/googlemaps/RouteFinder.cfm and learn how to volunteer for this survey at wiatri.net/inventory/frogtoadsurvey/Volunteer/newVol.cfm.

2. Mink Frog Survey – Mink frogs are only found in northern Wisconsin and often call in the daytime. In June and July, volunteers are recruited to listen in the Northwoods, once during the day and once at night, along routes targeting ideal mink frog breeding habitat. Learn more about the survey and how to volunteer on the Mink Frog Survey webpage at wiatri.net/inventory/frogtoadsurvey/Volunteer/Mink.

3. Phenology Survey – Volunteers for this survey

help monitor when frogs and toads first start calling each spring. Phenology volunteers choose one wetland to monitor throughout the frog calling season and record data as often as possible for five minutes per night. Learn more about the survey and how to volunteer on the Phenology Survey webpage at wiatri.net/inventory/frogtoadsurvey/Volunteer/phenology.cfm.

Dates for each survey vary, and some are dependent on the changing seasons. Volunteers will receive more details on timing after contacting the survey teams.

“Our froggers have also really become advocates for frogs and toads,” Badje said. “They bring their children and grandchildren on fun nighttime frog calling excursions and provide numerous frog and toad educational presentations at local libraries and nature centers. A few passionate ‘uberfroggers’ have even made surveys a part of their lives for 42 years running, longer than I’ve been alive.”

Wisconsin Frog and Toad Survey volunteers started collecting data in 1984, collectively spending more than 10,500 nights surveying 103,400 sites.

“Our volunteers are the beating heart of frog monitoring and conservation in Wisconsin,” said Badje. “They are why this survey is the longest-running citizen science frog calling survey in North America.”

Volunteers are currently documenting the highest levels of American bullfrogs and Blanchard’s cricket frogs since the survey began, an encouraging sign that proactive conservation measures for these two species are likely paying off. Volunteers are also contributing substantial knowledge into the unique calling patterns and distribution of mink frogs throughout the Northwoods.

Visit the DNR’s amphibians and reptiles webpage for more opportunities to get involved: dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/WildlifeHabitat/HelpHerps.html.



WISCONSIN DNR PHOTO *Brodhead Independent Register*
The DNR’s Wisconsin Frog and Toad Survey is the longest-running citizen science frog calling survey in North America.

• *Emblem*

(Continued from page 8)

debate continued regarding the number of arrows in the eagle’s grasp. An original proposal recommended 13 arrows to represent the original colonies. However, this design led to an infringement issue with the National Seal. There was further confusion depending on who manufactured items with the FFA emblem. If you look through your FFA memorabilia, you can see some emblems with three arrows and others with five arrows.

Like any living organization,

the symbolism and iconography used to represent the National FFA Organization is ever-changing. While it has been decades since the emblem was last modified, there may come a day when additional changes are made to continue to represent the vastness and great diversity represented by the world’s largest agricultural youth organization.

This article originally appeared on www.ffa.org/ffa-new-horizons/ffa-emblem-history.



HIRING EVENT

Friday, March 24
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
1501 West Seventh Ave.
Brodhead, WI

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