

LEC states the current jail is ‘Good’ in the annual jail inspection

By Elaina Sanders

The Jackson County (JC) Law Enforcement Committee (LEC) met Sept. 30 for a special meeting for the annual county jail inspection. This was done per the requirement of Wisconsin Statutes Section 59.55(15) Annual Jail Inspection.

“The annual inspection is to be held at least once each year by the board of each county, or committee and therefore shall visit, inspect and examine each jail maintained by the county, for health, cleanliness and discipline. The keeper of the jail shall lay before the board or the committee a calendar setting forth the name, age and cause of committal of each prisoner. If it appears to the board or committee that any of the provisions of law have been violated or neglected, the board or the committee shall immediately give notice of the violation to the district attorney of the county,” states the WI statute.

The committee first met in the county board room of the courthouse to open the meeting and take attendance. All members were in attendance, along with law enforcement, JC Sheriff Duane Waldera, chief deputy Nick Gray and captain Kaylan Rich, the jail administrator. Richard (Rick) Poff, JC facility manager, was also in attendance for this meeting.

After a brief discussion from the sheriff on what the committee would be allowed to bring, they headed off for the inspection. The public was allowed in the walk-through.

After the walk-through was completed, the committee reconvened in the county board room.

The recent inspection of the county jail found the 39-year-old facility to be

clean, orderly and professionally staffed, but board members and officials noted several areas requiring attention, including exposed equipment, storage limitations and aging laundry systems.

During the walkthrough, the committee raised concerns over exposed wiring and data cables in the booking area, suggesting protective barriers should be installed.

Rich acknowledged the risks, noted that expensive equipment was vulnerable, and explained that newer facilities typically feature protective counters with plexiglass screens. While staff diligence was praised, the area was rated between “fair” and “good.” The Sally Port [area used to receive those arrested from the road] received a similar rating, with concerns about cramped conditions and storage limitations, particularly when moving restrained individuals.

Sanitation in the kitchen and medical areas drew positive remarks, with one inspector saying the space “looked cleaner than most kitchens.” Housing units were also generally rated as “good,” though a loose shower control and minor maintenance issues were flagged. In maximum security, committee members recommended separating “receiving” cells from maximum-security classifications in future reports, to better reflect their use and conditions.

Laundry operations were described as working within the space available. The committee received information on the machines being semi-commercial dryers. While these units rely on costly

disposable parts, the space and infrastructure limitations prevent the installation of larger commercial-grade systems.

Several safety issues were identified during the inspection. These included exposed sprinkler systems, unsecured fire extinguisher cabinets and loose plastic pieces in multipurpose rooms. Suggestions included relocating equipment and installing protective cabinetry to reduce risks.

The work orders process was also reviewed, and some were found to be unresolved or lacking documented labor hours and costs. Captain Rich explained that while the electronic work order system has improved efficiency over past paper-based methods, many repairs require outside vendors and follow-up tracking remains a challenge.

Policy questions were raised when Bill Laurent asked about the jail’s policies and procedures manual, which had not been formally revised since 2015. Jail leadership clarified that the facility now uses the Lexipol system, which provides ongoing updates tied to state and federal law changes. Classification and mental health policies, for example, are reviewed annually, though not all updates require state approval. These manuals are, however, limited in the internal law enforcement staff.

Despite these structural and procedural concerns, the committee repeatedly praised staff professionalism, calling officers “knowledgeable and very professional.”

The committee interviewed one inmate, unnamed, who said they were



Elaina Sanders/ Banner Journal

The Jackson County (JC) Law Enforcement Committee (LEC) held an annual county jail inspection. This Jail inspection is different than the one DOC jail inspection and was done as a point in time walk through for the county’s knowledge of the current standing and usage of the jail.

satisfied with their treatment. Programs for healthcare and rehabilitation were described as extensive, though officials noted their success cannot be judged solely from physical inspections.

During the discussion, Rich noted plans to acquire

additional safety equipment for a potential regional CERT (corrections emergency response team) in the future and that joint training with patrol deputies continues, including recent cell extraction exercises.

In conclusion, the com-

mittee determined that despite its age and equipment limitations, the county jail remains well-maintained and is staffed by professionals who uphold high standards. The final inspection report will be filed with the county clerk.

Architect Melissa Stein had explained that the county could comply by converting cells to single occupancy or expanding them through costly renovations. Estimated renovation costs ranged from \$7.1 million to \$7.8 million, plus another \$2.3 million to replace barred cell doors with glass or plexiglass panels as recommended by the state.

Sheriff Duane Waldera had questioned whether investing millions in partial fixes would truly solve long-term issues such as poor visibility, inmate classification, and officer safety. He warned that the lack of adequate space could have led to early inmate releases if other counties refused to take high-need detainees.

The committee also discussed building a new jail on land previously used by the county highway department, which was expected to be relocated. While a new facility would have met modern standards, early cost estimates exceeded \$33 million, adding to the \$43 million already budgeted for the new highway shop. Supervisor Tom Cooper cautioned that such expenses could have overwhelmed taxpayers and urged a full analysis of the potential tax impact.

The committee agreed to gather more information before its next meeting on Oct. 14, including a detailed breakdown of renovation and construction costs.

Summary of the current predicament the county may face when it comes to the jail

By Elaina Sanders

Jackson County officials faced tough decisions as they worked to bring the county jail into compliance with Wisconsin Department of Corrections regulations while keeping costs manageable.

At the Sept. 9 Jail Ad Hoc Committee meeting,

members reviewed options presented by Wold Architects to meet the state’s “350 Rules,” which required at least 25 square feet per inmate for double-occupancy cells. The county’s existing jail cells fell short of that requirement, meaning the facility was technically out of

compliance if more than one person was housed per cell.

Aircraft lands without landing gear at Black River Falls airport



Emergency crews responded Friday afternoon after a small aircraft landed without its landing gear at Black River Falls Municipal Airport.

At approximately 2:38 p.m., the Jackson County Communications Center received a call from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in La Crosse, WI, that an airplane had touched down with its landing gear up and that contact with the pilot had not yet been established.

The Black River Falls Fire Department, along with deputies from the Jackson County Sheriff’s Office and officers from the Black River Falls Police Department, arrived at the airport and located the pilot, who was not injured.

Officials confirmed the plane landed on its belly with the landing gear still retracted. No fire occurred, and authorities said there was no evidence of a fuel leak.

The aircraft was disabled in the landing, and the runway was expected to remain closed for at least 24 hours while the scene is cleared.



Contributed photo

A small aircraft rests on the runway after making a gear-up landing at Black River Falls Municipal Airport. The pilot was uninjured in the incident Friday afternoon.

BRFMU commission receives more information on a well versus a tower for the water system

By Garrett Aleckson

The Black River Falls Municipal Utility (BRFMU) Commission met for its regular meeting Monday, Sept. 29. The commission continued its discussions on the pros and cons of going with a new water well or a water tower. “At the July meeting, I went over the whole process for drilling a test well,” Engebretson said. “There was a lot of talk about the uncertainty of finding a viable well site with both the water capacity and water quality. After further discussion, you asked that I go back to SEH (Short Elliot Hendrickson Inc.) and look at the viability of a tower versus a well. I asked SEH to put a memo out, and we handed it out at last meeting. We thought, since it’s a big money item, we’d like the full commission here to discuss it.”

The commission started by stated what their thoughts were at the time.

“I thought we went over the advantages and disadvantages of just a well or just a tower, and I thought we decided that just a well was the way to go,” said commissioner Donald Matthews.

“As far as I know, I don’t think we actually made a decision,” stated commissioner Jeff Amo. “My concerns are, somebody has to stick up for fire protection. I know, when we had the truck stop fire back in 1996, the water system fell on its face. It didn’t perform. We had to haul in water from

the ponds in Brockway. I go back to that, and nothing has really changed since then. So, I’m pro tower, pro storage and pro pressure.”

In 2024, the commission approved a water study after hearing of interest in vacant lots and the possible need to support expansion. The commission reviewed the water system study findings in March of 2024.

The study, done by Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC), reviewed the water system based on maximum day, average day, fire demand and peak hour. At the time, it was explained that justifying a project would require one of the criteria to be insufficient according to PSC’s model. The existing water system was sufficient in peak hour, with maximum day, average day and fire demand all insufficient. For future expansion, the water system was still considered sufficient for peak hour and still insufficient for maximum day, average day and fire demand. The PSC’s projections for future expansion are based on different types of businesses such as hotels and how many rooms a hotel might have. In order for the water system to be fully sufficient for future expansion, one water tower and two wells were suggested.

“I understand your concerns, Jeff,” stated Engebretson. “Talking with SEH, they said there is a case for doing a tower. There are some

operational concerns. That does start the clock ticking on maintenance, and we’d had to have four on the same cycle. We’d have concerns about stagnation of water and freezing. Just my thinking on why I recommend a well, there are limited sites by us for a well. So, I think time is somewhat of the essence to develop a source site. There is uncertainty, so it might not work anyway. Regardless, we do need wells to fill up the towers. With the way this system is set up, it’s linear, we have quite a bit of distance between the wells and the tower over here. It’s just one 12-inch line. There’s a good distance on the west side too, but there are more water mains infrastructure that can feed into that tower.”

“According to the study, a well would increase fire flow exponentially,” Engebretson continued. “A tower would

increase it more. There are some high areas here where the well would not fix the pressure issue. I think having a source of supply on both ends would give us more flexibility. If we have an issue with that 12-inch line, then we have no supply on this end. If we at least have a well on this side, there are some operational things that the water department can do, such as putting pressure relief valves on hydrants on a temporary basis.”

“It looked to me like we could use two wells instead of one,” added commissioner and BRF mayor Jay Eddy.

Ultimately, the commission agreed on moving forward with searching for a test site for a well. The commission also expressed the need for further planning for land that would be sufficient for either a tower or a well.

Fall Decorations by Karner Blue Gardening Club



Elaina Sanders/ Banner Journal

The Karner Blue Gardening Club put up decorations for fall that include a scarecrow on the corner of East Main Street and North Water Street in Black River Falls.

Jackson County grappled with Rising Homelessness in 2025

By Elaina Sanders

Homelessness continued to challenge the Jackson County community in 2025, with new data revealing both progress and persistent issues. Community leaders and residents gathered in October to confront the issue head-on, highlighting the scale of the crisis and discussing what it would take to ensure every county resident had a safe place to call home.

On October 2, the Jackson County Homeless Coalition, in partnership with the Wisconsin Balance of State Continuum of Care (WIBOS CoC), hosted a public forum at the county Department of Health and Human Services building in Black River Falls. Residents, service providers, and local officials filled the main conference room to hear the latest findings, share personal stories, and propose solutions. The tone was urgent yet hopeful, as speakers emphasized the need for both immediate relief and long-term systemic change.

The event was part of a larger statewide effort. The Balance of State CoC, which coordinated homelessness services in 69 of Wisconsin’s 72 counties, had expanded its reach in recent years with new grants, staffing, and programs. For Jackson County and neighboring counties in the Dairyland Coalition, that

support translated into stronger data collection, increased coordination of services, and advocacy for more affordable housing.

Recent data painted a complicated picture. The Dairyland Coalition, which includes La Crosse, Monroe, Vernon, Trempealeau, and Jackson counties, reported serving 801 people in 2024. That was a drop from 932 in 2023, but still higher than the 797 served in 2021, suggesting homelessness had not returned to pre-pandemic levels. About 70 percent of adults served had a disability, and nearly one in four were considered chronically homeless.

Racial disparities also stood out. Black residents were 19 times more likely to experience homelessness compared to White residents, while American Indian residents were six times more likely. Advocates said those numbers reflected systemic inequities that local communities could not solve alone.

The annual Point-in-Time count, taken during a single night in January 2025, found 206 people experiencing homelessness in the Dairyland region, including 34 who were unsheltered and living in vehicles, tents, or other places not meant for habitation. The year before, 230 people were counted,

including more than 100 unsheltered. While the decline was welcomed, officials warned it was too early to declare progress, since the numbers tended to fluctuate from year to year depending on weather, outreach efforts, and housing availability.

For Jackson County leaders, the numbers underscored the urgency of finding both short- and long-term solutions. Local coalition members pointed to the growing need for emergency shelter beds, expanded outreach to people living outdoors, and permanent housing options that included rental assistance and supportive services. They also noted the importance of diversion programs, which help people find alternative housing solutions before they enter the shelter system.

The conversation in Black River Falls also touched on policy. State lawmakers in 2024 debated measures that would have increased penalties for people experiencing homelessness. The Wisconsin Assembly passed a bill in February, but it stalled in the Senate after strong opposition from advocacy groups. Since 2018, the Balance of State CoC had required every regional coalition, including Dairyland, to develop plans addressing the criminalization of homelessness. That meant educating policymakers,

law enforcement, and businesses about alternative approaches.

Across Wisconsin, the need for housing continued to outpace supply. As of early 2025, more than 2,600 housing units were needed statewide to house everyone experiencing homelessness. Nearly 800 households had been waiting on Coordinated Entry lists for more than 200 days, reflecting how slow the process had become.

Coalition leaders said forums like the one in Jackson County were essential for keeping the issue visible. By bringing together residents, service providers, and decision-makers, they hoped to build momentum for local and regional solutions. “Every resident of Jackson County deserves a place to call home,” one organizer said, echoing the coalition’s guiding principle.

While the year’s numbers showed modest declines, the broader trend remained clear: homelessness in Jackson County and across western Wisconsin was not going away on its own. Without more investment in affordable housing, supportive services, and community-driven solutions, advocates warned, the region would continue to face the same challenges in years to come.

Women sentenced for killing and then burning the body of partner

The Jackson County (JC) woman charged with killing her partner was sentenced Sept. 30, 2025, in JC Circuit Court. Star Myers, 51, received a 42-year sentence Tuesday for shooting and killing her partner in March 2023.

Myers, also known as Star Bork, was sentenced to 22 years in prison, followed with 20 years of extended supervision. The sentence will run consecutive to Myers’ current prison term from a previous conviction in Dunn County. She was also ordered to pay \$4,800 in restitution.

Myers was originally charged with first-degree intentional homicide and six other felonies in connection with the March 2023 shooting death of her partner. The remaining charges were dismissed as part of the plea agreement.

Myers had previously been found competent to proceed with the case after questions about her mental state were raised in November 2023.

It was March 9, 2023, when the JC Sheriff’s Office (JCSO) received a call from Myers, reporting an individual missing since March 7. A deputy took her statement and entered the individual as a missing person.

According to a press release issued by the JCSO March 10, the JCSO received information indicating the individual was not actually



Contributed photo

Star S. Myers, 51, Black River Falls, was sentenced in Jackson County Circuit Court to 22 years in prison after being found guilty of killing her partner back in March of 2023.

missing but deceased as the result of foul play. Based on this information, the JCSO enlisted the assistance of the Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation, the Wisconsin State Patrol and the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory, and a search warrant was carried out at a residence on CTH O, near the intersection of STH 27, in the town of Manchester in JC, Wisconsin.

Human remains were located on the property during the search. Samples of the remains were sent out for positive identification.

During the course of the investigation, multiple arrests were made.

Sept. 30, at approximately 7:22 a.m., the Jackson County (JC) Communications Center received information from the Wisconsin State Patrol regarding two stolen vehicles traveling eastbound on I-94, entering JC. The two vehicles were reported stolen from a rental car company in Minneapolis, MN.

The responding deputies located the two vehicles traveling east on I-94 and attempted to stop one of the vehicles. The two vehicles fled at a high rate of speed and a vehicle pursuit was initiated. One of the vehicles eventually exited at the eastbound area rest stop. The driver abandoned the undamaged vehicle and fled into the woods. The

vehicle was recovered, but the driver was not located.

The fleeing vehicle continued eastbound into Monroe County. The Monroe County Sheriff’s Office deployed tire deflation devices near Tomah, which were effective. The vehicle came to a controlled stop, and the two occupants were taken into custody without further incident.

The driver was identified as Makenzie Eisert, 18, of Fairbault, MN. The passenger was identified as Anjel Starr, 21, of Saint Paul, MN.

Eisert was booked into the JC Jail for fleeing an officer, operating without owner’s consent, recklessly endangering safety, and receiving stolen property.



**Driver of vehicle
Makenzie Eisert, 18,
Fairbault, MN**

Starr was booked into the JC Jail for operating without the owner’s consent as a passenger, as a misdemeanor.

At this time, all parties



**Passenger of vehicle
Anjel Starr, 21,
Saint Paul, MN**

involved retain a presumption of innocence until adjudicated otherwise in a court of law. The second stolen vehicle was not detained.

Opinion

Question for the community

Letter to the editor:

I have never sent a letter to the editor before, but in light of recent events, I find myself not wanting to be quiet anymore. A recent letter about gun control caused me to write this.

Why is it always Trump's fault? In office for 9 months and 4 years prior and everything wrong with the government is his doing. Why didn't you complain about Obama and Biden not doing anything to stop the violence?

What about being in office for 30,40,50 years and not doing anything? The constitution is the law of the land, but people think you just change it and poof gun

control. How about we enforce the laws we have and prosecute the offenders?

Trump brings in the National Guard to Washington, DC. and crime goes down. Trump tries to bring them into crime-ridden Portland, and the mayor demands they leave. I find it hard to believe that any city wouldn't want to curb as much crime as possible, but if Trump is involved, they would rather have increased crime than help.

How about we make criminals accountable for their actions instead of a revolving door with the justice system?

Jon Lingo,
Hixton

Sheriff's office says goodbye to K9 Gus

According to a press release from the Jackson County sheriff's office.

It announced, "It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Jackson County Sheriff's Office K9 Gus. In the past several days, it was noted that Gus appeared not to be feeling well and was taken to his vet, where it was discovered, he had terminal cancer. On Oct. 1, Gus passed away with loved ones and friends at his side."

Deputy Mark Moan and K9 Gus (real name Lt. Dan) have been a canine team at the Jackson County Sheriff's Office for numerous years. During their time together, as a team at the Sheriff's Office, they have been deployed numerous times for canine trails. Generally, these trails were in an attempt to find missing persons.

In addition to their work as a canine trailing team, they were an active part of the canine unit and could commonly be found at many public events, including the Jackson County Fair, Student Government Day and Trunk or Treat events.

"On behalf of the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, we'd like to thank Deputy Mark Moan and K9 Gus for their

service to Jackson County, as well as express our condolences to Deputy Moan, the Moan Family and all who knew and loved Gus," ended the press release.

Moan explained to Banner Journal in an interview, "Gus was a sweet and gentle soul with a big heart, he loved all people he especially loved giving gentle kisses to children. Gus was a loyal partner he did everything I ask of him and was always glued to my side. Gus had an incredible nose and in his career he was asked to use it on several hundreds of cases and missing people all over the state of Wisconsin. It didn't matter how much time had passed or how many miles we walked he gave it his all. Gus gave his whole life to me, my family and Jackson County."

He continued, "At home he enjoyed eating soap bubbles. Gus was tolerant of everything except trimming his nails. He was a counter surfer who loved leaving a trail of slobber across the counter. He would never miss an opportunity to steal your spot in the recliner as soon as you got up. Gus was a great all around dog and he will truly be missed by many. Gus god speed and rest in peace."



Contributed photo
Deputy Mark Moan and K9 Gus are pictured standing together on duty.

Jackson County Historical Society presents Undertaking the Wisconsin Death Trip

The Jackson County Historical Society (JCHS) is hosting Undertaking the Wisconsin Death Trip, a Halloween Wake focused on themes related to mortality and loss.

The event includes a screening of the 1999 film, The Wisconsin Death Trip, which is based on Michael Lesy's 1973 non-fiction book. The book presents a historical analysis of noteworthy events—such as death, murder, arson, mental health issues, suicide and other challenges—that occurred in and around Black River Falls during the late 19th century. Both the film and the book incorporate photographs by Charles Van Schiak, a photographer from Black River Falls, and articles from the local weekly newspaper, the Badger State Banner.

In addition to the film, there will be a brief discussion on funerals and death, as well as a display featuring Carnegie Museum artifacts and historical photographs related to death, accompanied by coffee and period cakes.

All members and interested parties are invited to attend. Although the film is

unrated, its mature subject matter is intended for an adult audience. Attendees may choose to wear historical mourning attire but are under no obligation to do so. This event aims to highlight the distinctive local history within its unique context, together with a contemporary analysis.

The event will take place at the History and Research Center, 34 South 1st Street, downtown Black River Falls. Two presentations are scheduled: Saturday, Oct. 25, from 2 to 4 p.m., and Thursday, Oct. 30, from 6 to 8 p.m.

On Oct. 25, in addition

This fall, the Black River Falls Public Library will offer two opportunities for adults to nurture their creativity. Join them Wednesday, Nov. 5, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. for Make & Take Greeting Cards with Kim Weber. In this workshop, participants will have the opportunity to make up to five seasonal greeting cards—perfect timing for the upcoming holiday season.

Weber began scrapbooking 20 years ago, and as a result of that, began making greeting cards. Weber describes card-making as “a social thing I like to do with friends.” She enjoys sharing

her cards with others and is in a group that makes and sends out cards to seniors in her church community.

Thursday, Nov. 6, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., there will be a Season's Greetings Watercolor Workshop for Beginners, presented by Sue Pearson. In this workshop, participants will discover simple ways to create a beautiful seasonal watercolor and go home with a piece of their own art in a small mat ready for framing.

Pearson's artistic life started at age three looking at her mother's basket of greeting cards and trying to figure out how they were made.

to activities organized by the Historical Society, downtown Black River Falls trick-or-treating will take place from 2 to 5 p.m., followed in the evening by the Black River Area Chamber of Commerce, Trail of Terror, which starts at 5 p.m.

Library hosting seasonal watercolor & card-making workshops for adults

Pearson will tell you that she is still learning and growing as an artist. Her favorite thing to do is to pass on simple techniques any beginner can do with no talent required.

Both workshops are free of charge, and all materials will be provided. Class size for each workshop is limited to six to eight adults, so registration is required by calling the library at 715-284-4112. These workshops are made possible thanks to the generous support of the Friends of the Black River Falls Public Library as well as community donations to the library.

Guest speaker at the Lunda Hub Oct. 22

The Lunda Community Center is delighted to announce that acclaimed author and writing instructor Marja Mills will be the featured guest speaker on Wednesday, Oct. 22 at 1 p.m. Mills, a New York Times bestselling author and former Chicago Tribune journalist, will share her insights on storytelling and memoir writing in a special session designed to inspire writers of all levels.

In her talk, Mills will explore the art of capturing meaningful family stories on the page. Drawing from her acclaimed 2014 memoir, The Mockingbird Next Door: Life with Harper Lee, Mills will offer an intimate look into her friendship with Harper Lee, the celebrated author of To Kill a Mockingbird, and Harper's sister, Alice Finch Lee. Attendees will gain valuable writing tips and hear

behind-the-scenes stories about her experiences living next door to the Lee sisters in Monroeville, Alabama.

A longtime journalist and storyteller, Mills spent years as a feature writer for the Chicago Tribune. Today, she teaches writing workshops

online for both beginning and experienced writers, helping others bring their personal stories to life.

Following her presentation, Mills will be available to sign copies of her book, which will be available for purchase at the event.

Veterans' essential needs drive

The Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELC) Witness-Outreach program is proud to announce its Veterans' Essential Needs Drive, running from Oct. 1 through Oct. 31. The initiative aims to collect vital winter items and personal care supplies to support local veterans through the Jackson County Veterans Services Office.

As the weather turns colder, many veterans in the community face challenges in meeting basic needs. The ELC witness-outreach team invites community members to donate new or gently used essential items to help make a difference.

Requested items include: Winter hats and gloves, hand and foot warmers, sweatshirts, undergarments, socks, towels, washcloths, toothpaste, combs and hair brushes, body wash, lotion, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, baby wipes, and non-perishable food items.

Donations can be dropped off or mailed to: Evangelical Lutheran Church in Black River Falls at 1115 N. 5th Street, Black River Falls.

All collected items will be distributed by the Jackson County Veterans Services Office to veterans in need throughout the region.

Letter to the Editor Policy

Read carefully before submitting a Letter to the Editor.

Anyone who has an opinion that does not contain libel is welcome to send a letter for consideration to be published in the Banner Journal. The *Banner Journal* usually tries to publish only one letter per month per writer. The writer must sign the letter and the writer's name will be published with the letter.

Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 900 words. Please provide a telephone number for confirmation.

A Letter to the Editor cannot be used to thank an individual or organization. Additionally, The *Banner Journal* does not accept Letters to the Editor endorsing political parties or candidates or addressing voting issues.

Support for a political party or political candidate must be done through a **paid advertisement**. Each writer must submit his or her own letter.

A letter cannot be submitted on behalf of another person.

To submit a letter, you must be 18 years of age. The *Banner Journal* reserves the right to accept or reject any letters at its discretion.

Thank you.

Please note that the views expressed in the opinion section do not necessarily represent those of the *Banner Journal* or Finger Publishing, Inc.

Send letters to the editor to editor@bannerjournal.com.

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Thomas Finger	Publisher
Elaina Sanders	Editor/News Reporter
Garrett Aleckson	Sports Reporter

THE HIXTON HAPPENINGS

By Lori Johnson

We had the best movie day this past Sunday with Sis, Dave and Angie, probably because it's been so long since we've had the last one. Watched the latest Signed, Sealed and Delivered movies and gobbled down Lazy Man's Lasagna and Garlic bread and Sis brought one of her famous coconut angel food cakes. We also found time to laugh, joke and goof around. The most important to hubby anyway is that with Dave's metal detector, he finally found the log chain he had lost and searched for several times. How does one lose a big old log chain, you ask? He will be glad to tell you the whole story,

Hixton Beautification, aka Hixton Flower Ladies, have worked their magic and the village is full of scarecrows and pumpkins.

It isn't the fall season without me making up my Cain's retail shop order. Not only do I get my favorites, there are always new things to try, lots I can't find anywhere else. And, as long as hubby was out getting that, there were several new things to try at Hixton Cheese as well, namely sundried tomato cheese curds and the ice cream bars I have heard so much about. I sure love it that both are in Hixton.

Oct 5-11 is Fire Prevention week. Shout out to our Hixton Fire Department.

Apparently, the sirens at Hixton had a mind of their own Oct. 1. Glad they weren't blown because of an emergency.

In the 2025 Spring Creek Super Series, Aleece Sedelbauer finished the season in the top 10 in two classes—mini-E Sr. - 6th and 50cc open - 7th. She came into the last race with positions to gain or lose, and she ended up gaining positions in each class. In the e-bike class points were tight and she gained one point in the last race which moved her up to 6th. In 50cc open,

she got 9th in moto 1 but in the second moto, she went down in the second corner and by the time her bike restarted she was in 31st with everyone out of sight. If she would have finished in last she would have ended up 11th overall in the championship. But she rode hard and passed a bunch on the first lap then went down a second time, and they all went by her again. But she didn't give up and pushed hard enough to get into 20th that moto which set her up to get just enough points in the championship to move her up to seventh. Jon and Janessa Sedelbauer are very proud of her in her first full race season and their whole family had an absolute blast at each and every race this year. This is one determined young lady.

Taylor-Hixton Legion's open house will be Oct. 11, noon until 3 p.m. food and refreshments will be available. Any resident can rent the hall, with kitchen facilities available. Contact Al Jacobson for information.

Lincoln's junior class is hosting a spaghetti dinner Friday, Oct. 14, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at Humbird Rod and Gun Club. If you are interested in tickets but don't know a junior class student, contact Ashley Guy at ashley_guy@achm.k12.wi.us or stop up in the high school office. Money raised is used for class activities.

Upcoming for Lincoln: Oct. 10 - FFA Fire Conference, 7 a.m.—5 p.m. at UW-Stevens Point at Marshfield; Oct. 15 - Raine-UW-Stout, 7:30 a.m.—3:20 p.m.; and Oct. 16 - Sportsmanship Workshop, 8 a.m.—3 p.m.

Thank you to County Line Fire Department during Fire Prevention week.

The Rain Gutter Regatta happened this past Sunday. The Scouts always have a good time with this, and creativity runs wild.

Celebrating eight outstanding Tigers who earned the top score off five on their AP exams last spring. Congratulations to Chris Antonelli - AP Gov, Ben Bresee - APUSH, Connor Carlson - AP Gov, Channing Goldsmith - AP World History, Anna Janowski - AP Gov, Aiden Pillard - APUSH, Ari Rukavina - AP Spanish Language & Culture, and Lily Sullivan - APUSH.

Six Black River Falls High School (BRFHS) students earned the AP Scholar Award after their 2025 testing. This recognition is given to students who score a 3 or higher on three or more AP exams—not just from this year, but across all their AP testing in high school. Celebrating Chris Antonelli, Logan Backus, Anton Cassidy, Maleki Lee, Lauren Slosser and Reece Youngthunder.

High school students and staff wore orange in recognition of Orange Shirt Day. This day honors the experiences of residential school survivors and their families, and reminds us of the importance of listening, learning and standing together in support of every child. Every Child Matters.

BRF Community Education Welding & Metalworking class is almost ready to roll: six people are in, but eight are needed to fire up the torches. Adult students will learn the basics of welding and metalworking, working with SMAW and GMAW welders, plus shop tools like grinders, chop saws, and hydraulic shears. Class dates are Oct.

1-29, (Wednesdays - 5 sessions) 6 to 8:30 p.m. Sign up at <https://brfparksandrec.desk.com/Community/Home>.

Science Club members rolled up their sleeves and hit the road to help keep their community clean through the Adopt-a-Highway program.

Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELC) Veterans Essential Needs Drive will be going Oct 1 to 31. New or like new hats and gloves, hand and foot warmers, sweatshirts, under garments, socks, towels, washcloths, toothpaste, combs, hairbrushes, body wash, lotions, deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, baby wipes and non-perishable food items are needed. All donations will go to the veteran's service office. Drop off at ELC.

Sylvia made delicious, sweet treats for Interfaith's Memory Choir. Volunteer talents come in many forms, and they're so grateful for each and every one who shares their gifts with them. Whether it's baking, singing, organizing or simply showing up with a smile, the contributions make all the difference.

Another fun day at Time for You! The participants made homemade apple crisp,

which was delicious.

At Time for You, a memorial program for all participants that have passed or transitioned from the respite program was held.

The BRF Public Library is hosting a historical exhibit celebrating the life and work of John Muir. Titled "Wisconsin's John Muir: An Exhibit Celebrating the Centennial of the National Park Service," the display will be available throughout the month of October in the library's large program room. The exhibit explores Muir's early life in Wisconsin, his advocacy for the national park system and his perspective on environmental issues such as logging, hunting and climate change. It was made possible through the support of the estate of John Peters and the Follett Charitable Trust. The Wisconsin Historical Society's efforts depend on support from members.

Heads up, BRF, the water department crew is out flushing water mains to keep things flowing fresh and clean. This process should take about two weeks. You might notice some temporary discolored water—don't worry, it's totally normal. Questions, call at 715-284-2777.

Jackson County Historical Society (JCHS) presents a new history speaker series each month on the second Thursday at 6:30 p.m. October's history speaker series will be a program on Ancient Indigenous People of Jackson County: 14,000-plus years of Ho-Chunk Ancestry with speaker, Ryan Howell, a local archeologist, Thursday, Oct. 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the JCHS History Center building at 34 South 1st Street in BRF.

Plan to attend the October 15, Friends of the Black River (WI) meeting to learn about a program to identify and monitor rare plants in the Black River watershed, at 6:30 p.m. at the Hub.

Thank you BRF Fire Department during Fire Prevention Week.

A spaghetti feed and bake sale will be held at the Wrightsville Church Saturday, Oct. 11, 4-7 p.m., to help raise funds for toy giveaway and building maintenance.

Follow the Blue Rotary Flag and the awesome smell of BBQ to Lunda Park and the BRF Rotary Club's 4th annual rib cookout competition Oct. 11 at the Lunda

See Hixton Happenings, page 5

Every child deserves a birth day—adopt one—not abort one.

Paid for by WI Right to Life, J.C. Chapter

October is the Month of the Holy Rosary.

*The Apostle's Creed
The Lord's Prayer,
The Hail Mary,
Glory Be to the Father...*
*All while meditating
on the Life of Christ*

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you	Luke 1:28
Blessed art thou among women	Luke 1:41-42a Luke 1:48
Blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus	Luke 1-42b
Holy Mary, Mother of God	Luke 1:43
Pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our Death. Amen	Luke 2:35 John 2:5 Rev 8:3-4

Ad paid for by
Vera Pischke

2025-2026 ENERGY ASSISTANCE OUTREACH

The Jackson County Energy Assistance Program will be taking applications for energy assistance at the sites listed below.

Please bring:

- *Social security numbers for everyone in the household
- *Verification of income for the month prior to the date of application
- *Landlord name, address, and phone number
- *Account numbers for your fuel dealer and electric company.

If you are shut-in and unable to get to one of these sites, please call (715) 284-4301 and someone will make other arrangements to take your application.

OUTREACH SERVICES WILL BE OFFERED IN THE FOLLOWING SITES:

MELROSE
Village Hall
112 N Washington Street,
Melrose
Thursday, October 2 10:00am

MERRILLAN
Village Hall
101 S Main Street,
Merrillan
Tuesday, October 14 1:30pm

TAYLOR
Community Center
420 2nd Street,
Taylor
Friday, October 3 1:00pm

**HO-CHUNK NATION
TRIBAL AGING UNIT**
W8825 Decorah Road,
Black River Falls
Wednesday, November 12 1:00pm



COOPERATION FOR A PROSPEROUS WORLD

2025 INTERNATIONAL
CREDIT UNION DAY
Thursday, October 16th

CCU
CO-OP CREDIT UNION

Join us at all lobby locations
BRAT & BAKE SALES

• Bake Sale

9 a.m. until gone

• Brat Sale

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Brat, kraut, chips & beverage



Free will donations will be accepted to support community groups throughout the region

• Prize Drawings

Four winners per location

• Free, Secure Document Destruction

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Black River Falls Office

Two boxes per person limit

• Free, Secure Document Collection

Available at All Other Lobby Locations

Two boxes per person limit



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THE TAYLOR NEWS

By Lori Johnson

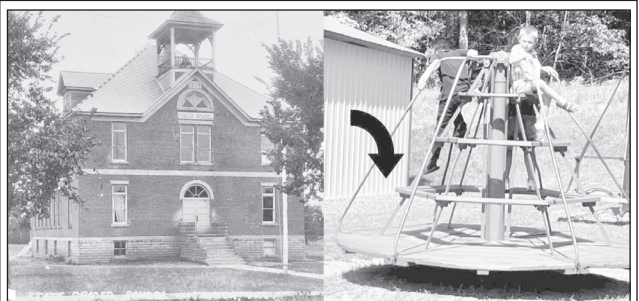
I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing pictures of and hearing about this year’s homecoming. It’s such a special time that is remembered years later.

The Blair-Taylor (BT) Cross Country Team ran the game ball from Independence to BT field for the homecoming football game, arriving around 6:45 p.m. The athletes were excited for this cool opportunity and I don’t blame them.

Homecoming spirit was shining bright as Mrs. Luchterhand’s class shared the signs they created.

BT middle-schoolers really put in their time getting into the homecoming spirit. Each homeroom picked a Pixar movie and went all out—decorating doors, creating locker signs, designing banners and even making large buttons. The hallways were bursting with color, creativity and school spirit. The movies picked by each grade level: eighth grade - Cars, seventh grade - Monsters Inc. and sixth grade - Toy Story.

Middle school with Mrs. Olson sounded interesting -Hawaiian Day and Teacher “Dress like a student day.”



The merry-go-round at the Taylor Rod and Gun Club began its life on the grade school playground in Taylor, WI. The four-tiered revolving wooden platform is wildly fun and has been etched in the memory of every child who has ever ridden on it. In the 1925 photograph, (on the left), the arrow points to the infamous merry-go-round behind the schoolhouse. The photo (on the right) was taken this summer at the Taylor Rod and Gun Club. It is remarkable that this piece of playground equipment has been spinning kids for a hundred years. What goes around, comes around!

Photo courtesy Taylor Museum of History

HolidayCabinet

SALE

10% off fabuwood

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14 W. Jefferson St., Black River Falls

BARN OWL

The Crazy Uncle

Conspiracy theories in science are attractive to politicians who want to fool people into believing them. Those theories often contain wild accusations and simple solutions to complex problems. They also find enemies to blame or secret societies pulling the strings.

In a recent news conference, President Trump talked about Tylenol and vaccines causing autism. It’s a little like listening to your Uncle Bob spouting off at Thanksgiving dinner. You know, the uncle who drinks too much, lives in grandma’s basement and is on his computer all day - the same Uncle who said injecting bleach into your veins may protect you from COVID-19, and hydroxychloroquine was a cure for the pandemic - but was being kept from us.

No solution is as easy as the sound bite made by people with no scientific training. A single study out of context does not answer a question. **Good science is slow to change with new data and is careful not to make broad statements. Good scientists look at all scientific work with suspicion until they are convinced. It’s often a long process.**

Politicians and internet trolls will present a scientific study, as they have in this case, that shows a “correlation” between a rise in Acetaminophen use and a rise in autism. But because two things happen at the same time does not mean one caused the other. For example, if you hear that violent crime in cities goes up at the same time ice cream sales go up – does that mean ice cream causes violent crime? No – but both go up when it’s hot. **Scientists have to carefully examine the faults in studies and think about what other factors may affect the results.**

Another example: a pregnant woman interviewed for a study may remember using Tylenol because she remembers being very sick during her pregnancy. Or, if her baby was born with problems, she thought hard about what the cause might have been. Another woman might have taken Tylenol during an easier pregnancy, but doesn’t report it because she doesn’t remember taking it.

The President warns pregnant women not to use acetaminophen, the only medication available in pregnancy to control a fever. (Only later, does he remind you to always consult your doctor.) As with vaccines and autism, **doubt has been cast**, leaving mothers to fear that they are not doing the right thing or may be hurting their babies. The goal of this government is not to protect mothers and their children, **but to cast doubt on the truth.** This makes ordinary people suspicious of science, whether it’s about autism or climate change, and all the more open to the next conspiracy theory and the next enemy.

The crazy uncle is at the table, but we don’t have to listen.

By Ben Boardman and Friends. Thank you for your gifts. You help BARN OWL stay in the local paper. Submit comments or questions to 57boardman@gmail.com Send donations to PO Box 57, Melrose, WI 54642

The child center kiddos joined in the fun and enjoyed watching the homecoming parade, which included Taylor Fire and Rescue.

Blair-Taylor’s homecoming court 2025 is king Collin Johnson and queen Landon Daffinson; court members are Aleksander Sygula, Benjamin Kidd, Caleb Dummer, Kyle Jahr, Andrea Waldera, Danielle McDole, Lauren Knutson and Andi Beck and mini queen Harper Dale and mini king Barrett Graff.

School spirit day wrapped up with an all-school assembly to celebrate students earning over 5,000 Paw Stamps in September.

How much excitement can be held on one night; there was volleyball and crowning of royalty and a bonfire.

It couldn’t be sweeter To make things absolutely perfect, the BT Wildcats won their 2025 homecoming game Oct. 3, defeating the Pepin/Alma Eagles with a score of 41-14.

World Dairy Expo judging - three teams, one amazing experience. Students competed in forage, milk products and dairy cattle judging and also took part in a passport stamp challenge through the trade show and exhibition. What a fantastic day of learning, teamwork, and fun. Results will be posted soon, stay tuned.

BT FFA had such a great time at the Barn Dance at Grandview, dancing with residents, bringing them fall treats and enjoying some great music together. Interacting with the community is one of their favorite things to do.

Milestone alert! Congratulations to Chloe Medenblik for reaching 500 career kills. BT Volleyball Dig Pink event will be held Oct. 16 against Melrose/Mindoro.

Well, this is a different twist. Let them cook for you at the BT parent teacher conferences Oct. 14 and 16, serving broccoli cheddar soup with a breadstick, chicken dumpling soup with a breadstick or a hot dog with potato chips and apple slices. to take home. Pre-order by Oct 8. Cash or check can be made payable to the BT Elementary PTO and sent to the elementary school office.

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming back to BT. The in-person book fair will run Oct. 10–17 and will also be open both evenings during parent-teacher conferences for family shopping. Families can shop online Oct. 10–23. You can even set up a convenient e-wallet for your child by visiting BT’s book fair homepage:

Held in memory of Jon Lien, Wm McNulty Jr. and Robert Kling, Plow Day Oct. 11 (rain date Oct. 12) will be held at Homestead Country Retreat from 10 a.m. and will be full of fun activity. Tractor (all brands welcome) and there will be horse-pulling, wood-cutting and corn-sheller demos, food at noon for freewill donation, pedal pull for kids at 1 p.m., kids games and penny hunt and wagon rides throughout the day. Sponsored by Beaches Corners Classic Tractor Club and WH Lien, call 715-662-5053 with any questions. Taylor-Hixton Legion’s open house will be Oct, 11, from noon until 3 p.m. Food and refreshments will be available to celebrate their recent remodel.

Amanda Buttke visited the museum, and found herself in a photo in the gallery - the

1995 BT eighth-grade girls basketball team. How cool is that.

Fatboys were at Mondovi Octoberfest Oct. 4. Great weather, great times and g friends!

Oct. 5-11 is Fire Prevention week. Thank you Taylor Fire and Rescue, fire chief Chris Burnett, asst. chiefs Sam Kling and Brandon Lofgren, captains Aaron Boe, Kyle Janzen, and firefighters Daryl Boe, Ben Woodward, Ryan Quarne, Randy Joten, Chet Rose, Jon Crocker, Glenn Miller, Gary Boe, Greg Kressel, Jeremy White and Dusty Waldera.

They were geared up for a beautiful day with lots of fun for kids and adults alike and I’m confident that Taylor Fire and Rescue had an amazing time at their dance. Details, please? Who won the firemen’s competition?

Dennis Jay Moldenhauer, 63, of Taylor passed away Sept. 24. A visitation and service was held Oct. 3 at Buswell Funeral Home. Burial was at Colwell Cemetery.

Spinach Artichoke Chicken Bake Recipe

2 pieces thinly-sliced chicken breast
4 tablespoons spinach artichoke dip
Salt and pepper, for seasoning
Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F. Place your desired amount of chicken breasts into a greased baking dish. For one or two cutlets, an 8-inch square dishes work great. For a family-sized serving, you’ll want to upgrade to a 9x13-inch baking dish. Add salt, pepper, or additional seasoning to your liking.

Spread 2 tablespoons of dip (more if you like extra sauce) on top of each piece of chicken, covering as evenly as possible. Place into the oven and bake for 18 to 20 minutes until the chicken’s internal temperature reaches 165 degrees F. The dip should be lightly browned and bubbling when done.

Remember, if you have news to share, contact me at 715-963-2531, and leave a message, message me on Facebook or email heart_of_hixton@yahoo.com and please put Taylor News in the subject line.

Hixton Happenings

From Page 4

Community Park Shelter, happening noon-5 p.m. This is the Rotary’s major fundraiser and they are using some of the proceeds to help the much-needed upgrades of the skate park at Lunda Park Thursday, Oct 9, at 3:30 p.m., join Miss Melody for LEGO Club at the BRF library. Anyone four years of age and older is invited to attend.

Offering condolences to the Jackson County Sheriff’s Department deputy Moan and family on the passing of K9 Gus.

Sportsmen, it’s time for the Hunter’s Guide. Send in pictures of hunting, fishing and trail cam by Oct. 21.

We have lost and will miss a very good neighbor and friend with the passing of Bob Darkow Oct. 2. A celebration of life will be held at the Jensen-Modjeski Funeral home Nov. 1 at 1 p.m. with a visitation being held from 11 a.m. until time of service. Hugs and condolences.

Tortellini Soup
3 T olive Oil
1 clove garlic, minced
3 stalks, celery, chopped
3 carrots, peeled and chopped
1 onion diced,
10-oz. box frozen spinach (unthawed),
2 cans cream of chicken soup
2 cans water
32-oz. chicken broth
Family size package of cheese or chicken tortellini, half cooked
Put olive oil in the bottom of a large soup/stock pan. Saute’ garlic, celery, carrots and onions until tender. Add frozen spinach. Break up blocks of spinach as you cook. Continue to saute’ until spinach thaws, then heats up. Add cream of chicken soup, water and chicken broth. Add tortellini. Heat and Serve

Remember, if you have news to share, contact me at 715-963-2531, message me on Facebook or email heart_of_hixton@yahoo.com--please put Hixton News in subject line.

Work will soon begin on the “*Hunters Guide.*”

If you have a hunting story and/or photos to share, please send them to editor@bannerjournal.com.

The *Hunters Guide* comes out with the *Banner Journal* and *The Shopper* the week prior to the gun deer hunt. Photos of fishing or hunting - anything outdoor-related - are welcome.

If you need help telling a story, call 715.284.4304. The deadline for submitting those photos and tales is Tuesday, Oct. 21.

DOES YOUR HOLIDAY EVENT NEED A LITTLE MORE EXCITEMENT?

ADD INSTANT PIZZAZZ TO ALL OF YOUR....

- COMMUNITY EVENTS
- CORPORATE
- BANQUETS
- RETIREMENT PARTIES
- DINNERS
- SCHOOL EVENTS

KRIS WROBEL MAGIC!

Kids and adults will appreciate Kris's humor and remember your event for years to come! CALL: 715-963-3608

Guardian Angels Parish

St. Kevin Church

813 N Washington St., Melrose, WI

HAM & TURKEY BUFFET

Delicious Homemade Goodness

Sunday, October 12

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Seating

Church Dining Hall

CARRYOUT AVAILABLE

\$16.00 (Children 8 & Under FREE Dine-In Only)

Includes: Ham, Turkey, Cheesy Potatoes, Our Famous Homemade Dressing, Corn, Rolls, Dessert and Beverage

Bake Sales

Pull Tabs

Basket Raffle

Gift Card Raffle

Mass at 5:30 PM Saturday, Oct. 11

NO MASS ON SUNDAY

SPAGHETTI FEED & BAKE SALE

Comes with Garlic Bread, Water or Coffee & a Dessert

~ \$10.00 a Plate ~

Where: At The Wrightsville Chapel

When: On Oct. 11, 2025

Time: 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Why: To help Raise Funds for our Toy Give Away and building maintenance.

7 Miles North of BRF, 3 Miles South of Merrillan on Hwy 12-27

Remember when...

October 1953

Wheel Cafe Sold To Hudgins

Robbie Rudolph recently sold the Wheel Cafe on North Second Street to Mr. and Mrs. Morris Hudgins, who have taken possession and are now operating the place of business. Mr. Hudgins has been a chef for the past 20 years, operating in the southern states and came here in 1942. He is taking care of the cooking and Mrs. Hudgins, the former Miss Inga Matson, of this city, is pastry cook. The cafe is open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily and from 7 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Sundays with a special Sunday dinner.

Mesdames Betty Hartwick, Ardell Kuntz, Esther Tollefson and Dutra Thompson are on regular duty and there are extra girls on during the weekend.

Mr. Rudolph has not yet made his plans for the future. He has long been connected with the cafe of which the name was recently changed from Hilda's to The Wheel. There is a little reason for it too, for Robbie's best friends always referred to him as "The Big Wheel." He was having coffee in The Wheel the other day and when asked how it seemed to be on the other side of the counter said, "It seems good. All right!"

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Krohn and daughter, Miss Ann, flew to Appleton Saturday and were accompanied from there by Gene Krohn and John Fry on a trip to Columbia, MO., where they visited Miss Alice Krohn, a student at Stephens College this year. Misses Karen Homstad and Sona Hanson are also students there and they saw them all. Misses Alice and Karen were waiting their arrival at the radio tower when they arrived. It was a most enjoyable trip and in spite of adverse winds both ways, they made it in about 3 1/2 hours, a trip that takes a day and a-half by train.

Wallen J. Capper, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Capper, and Kenneth Larkin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Larkin, both of Black River Falls, are leaving today for the reception center at Fort Riley, Kan., where they will be reassigned to service in the army. Wallie, as he is best known to his friends, has been staying at the home of Mrs. Julius Olson for some time. Both boys were attached to Co. A, 132nd Tank Bn., National Guard service in Black River Falls.

Mr and Mrs. Anton Hauger and Mrs. Myrta Fey drove to Camp Douglas Sunday, where they spent the day with Mrs. Percy Abrahams whose sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Perry of Racine, were also there for the weekend. They had a fine visit. Mrs. Perry was the former Miss Capitola Madacks.

Pvt. John Bahnub is now at Camp Rucker, Ala., after spending three weeks here on an enjoyable furlough after completing his basic training at Camp Roberts, Calif. He spent a few days in South

Carolina en route. It has been raining ever since he arrived in Alabama. He would like to hear from his friends and is looking forward to getting the Banner-Journal at his new address.

Honor Parking Lot Opening This Weekend

An honor parking lot is opening this weekend on the site of the former tobacco warehouse on North 2nd Street just this side of Van Gordens.

The honor parking lot was instituted by a man in California who has proven that it works out nicely and reports a remarkable lot of honor among parkers. The charge is 5¢ for an hour, 10¢ for a half-day. You place your coin in a box, park your car. There is no attendant. You get your own car out and the arrangement for doing it has been made very easy. There is room for 30 cars on the cement floor of the old former warehouse. If it works out satisfactorily, space for another 15 cars will be provided.

Several business men have rented space by the month at \$3.00 and will be glad to have their cars so conveniently parked.

J. Bruce Van Gorden has fitted the place for parking and is trying out the honor system on it.

October 1955

Frank's Auto Sales Showing 1956 Dodge

Frank's Auto Sales is showing the new 1956 Dodge at their show rooms Friday, October 7th. Built along safety lines, with the new safety door latches, which are so effective, even safety seat belts available if desired. The outstanding feature of the car is the new push button driving - just push a button for the desired car operation. Both exterior and interior of the new car, advertised in this issue, may be seen Friday at Frank's.

Life in 1976 On TV Sunday

Top TV talent will be featured Sunday from 2:30 to 3:30 on WKBH-TV La

Crosse on 140 stations on the NBC network, showing what life will be like 21 years from now. The picture is a kickoff to Oil Progress Week and the show is sponsored by the American Petroleum Institute. It will show what scientific pioneers plan for the future.

Seven Den Mothers Want More

Over 60 boys between the ages of 8 and 11 years have enrolled in the Cub Scouts for the coming term, according to Francis Burke, cub-master. "The large number of boys who have joined has made it necessary for us to appeal for two more den mothers to assist with the cub scout work," Burke said.

Already seven mothers have volunteered their services, Mrs. Donald Stromberg, Mrs. Francis Hardy, Mrs. John Samdahl, Mrs. Arthur Frederickson, Mrs. Elwood Quick, Mrs. Ruby Christianson and Mrs. Raymond Pomeroy will serve during the year as den mothers. Mrs. Lewis Epstein, Millston, plans to start a troop there.

Any mothers in rural areas who have children of the required ages who are interested in scouting are invited to start a den. Meetings are held weekly with the den mother and a pack meeting for all members are held the third Thursday of every month at St. Joseph's parish hall. Vilas Welda, chairman of the Scout Committee of the Lions Club, which sponsors the Cubs, may be contacted for further information.

Black River Makes Unusual Shipment

Quite a stir of interest was manifested by many passersby and people stopping at the Railway depot late Monday morning and for a good reason. A most unusual shipment was being made by express.

Fred Scholze of Melrose brought a box of six live skunks to be shipped to a zoo in the eastern part of the United States. It was the first shipment of this kind that had ever been made through



12 Children Present For Brynildson Golden Day

Courtesy La Crosse Tribune

Mr. and Mrs. Erick Brynildson of Taylor had all their children present for their golden wedding anniversary Sept. 26. Back row, from the left - Guy and Mrs. Irwin Olson (Bernice), Black River Falls; Palmer of Sparta, Oscar of Madison; Edwin, Black River Falls; Hansel, Taylor; Clifford, Cheboygan, Mich.; Ardell of Milwaukee. Front row, Mrs. Edward Noland (Delia) and Mrs. Clyde Trotter (Nina), Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Brynildson; Mrs. Edward McKeith (Julia), Western Springs, Ill.; Mrs. Earl Hardy (Ruby), Black River Falls.

Jackson County friends join in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Erick Brynildson repeated happy returns of September 26th. The picture taken on the occasion of their golden wedding we considered one of the finest of the kind we have seen. Mr. and Mrs. Brynildson look so well and happy, and the fact that all of their 12 children had survived and were able to be with them that day is indeed unusual. Four children live in Black River Falls, Guy and Edwin and Mesdames Irwin Olson and Earl Hardy.

The fact that Mr. and Mrs. Brynildson had the foresight 13 years ago to give up the hard work of operating a farm, built themselves a nice home on the farm and retired has possibly contributed to their fine appearance now. Mr. Brynildson is sexton of the North Beaver Creek Lutheran Church, not far from their home, and comments have been made on the fine condition in which he cares for the premises.

Mr. and Mrs. Erick Brynildson were honored Saturday, Sept. 26th, when some 200 gathered at Upper North Beaver Creek Lutheran Church to commemorate their golden wedding anniversary.

The couple farmed in the Taylor area until the fall of 1940, when they sold their place to a son, Hansel. The built a home on a portion of the home farm and now reside there. Both are active and well.

October 1953

the local depot, according to Agent Marty Marquardt, expressman here for 31 years. The skunks averaged ten pounds each. We can imagine Marty's cordial exclamations when he saw his rare shipment and can also imagine his "Thank goodness" when he learned the skunks were descended samples of wild life.

October 1965

Black River Memorial Hospital

By action of the Board of Directors, the name of Black River Community Hospital has been changed to Black River Memorial Hospital, it was announced by Dr. John H. Noble, president of the Hospital's Board of Directors.

As announced in the September 29th issue of the Banner-Journal, the Board has set in motion plans for the construction of a new hospital in Black River Falls. The hospital will be a modern, fully equipped 80-bed hospital, which will be one of the finest in this entire area.

Dr. Noble further stated that organization of the capital funds campaign to provide part of the financing of the proposed new hospital was getting started. The Jackson County Bank has provided free office space in the old bank building at South Second and Main streets for the campaign headquarters. Three representatives of the American City Bureau/Beaver Associates who will direct the campaign are getting the mechanics of the cam-

paign set up at this time.

Dr. Nobel stated that another aspect to the new, enlarged hospital would be the added traffic that it would direct to this area. Many visitors coming to see patients would contribute in many to

the local economy.

Primarily, however, the provision of adequate health facilities for the Black River area is the main objective of the board's plans.



ROSENBAUM'S PIONEERS IN "NO GRAIN" FEEDING PROGRAM

Courtesy La Crosse Tribune

Fred Rosenbaum, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Rosenbaum, Irving, captured many of the top Holstein places during the Jackson County Fair this fall.

Rosenbaum took blue ribbons for the best FFA cow, best FFA herd, first in her class in open division, the sweepstakes for the best Holstein cow and a blanket for best Holstein sired by Tri-State insemination. He is shown in the picture above with his cow "Bertha" and holding his many ribbons and blanket. He prepared his cow on a ration of hay, silage and balancer, no grain having been fed since last February.

The Rosenbaums were the first in this district to introduce the no grain feeding program in their dairy herd and "Bertha" was the first entry ever prepared for showing at the Jackson County Fair and the no grain feeding system. They are really pioneering new fields of animal nutrition.

October 1953



Born of success - born for success: New '56 Dodge is your reward for the greatest sales gain in Dodge history.

New '56 DODGE

Born of Success to Challenge the Future!



Here is a Dodge so dramatically beautiful, so daring in design that other cars seem ordinary by comparison. Here are revolutionary advances that introduce a new era of push-button driving. Gone is the shift lever! You now "tune in" the range of Power-Fite automatic driving on the Dodge Magic Touch push-button control! New V-8 and 6 engines, with surging break-away power, up to 200-h.p., set a new standard of thrilling performance. The look of success! The feel of success! The power of success! These are your rewards for the great Dodge advance—a dividend of extra value made possible by the greatest sales gain in the industry! This daring new '56 Dodge goes on display today. Come see its dramatic new Jet-Fin styling, and discover the thrill of push-button driving!

NEWS FLASH! New '56 Dodge shatters every American stock car record on Bonneville Salt Flats!

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Sun. - 10 a.m. Sunday School;
11 a.m. Worship Service;
6 p.m. Evening Worship.
Exception: 2nd Sunday of Each
Month Evening Service at 2 p.m.
For info. call
715-284-8144 or 715-284-8093.

Pine Hill Church of Christ
Hwy. 27 South at
Paquette Road, BRF
715-284-7037
Sunday Bible Class - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Assembly - 10:30 a.m.

Fairchild Church of Hope
200 W. Main, Fairchild
Wed. Night Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Sunday Service 10 a.m. with
Children's Church
followed by community meal

Grace Apostolic Tabernacle
Pastor Scott Pooler
Sun. - 6:00 p.m. Worship
@ N. Roosevelt Rd. (VFW Post) BRF

Trinity Peace Lutheran Parish
Upper Beaver Creek (UBC)
Taylor (T)
(UBC) Worship 8:00 a.m.
(T) Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Parkview Church
14th and Tyler
Black River Falls
Brule Buselmeier, Pastor
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School
9:00am (school season)

Trout Run United Methodist Church
Black River Falls
John Paul, Pastor
Sun. - 9:30 a.m. Worship Service/S.S.

Wrightsville Chapel
(Hwy 12/27)
Pastor Terry Marg
(Nondenominational)
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
Potluck on last
Sunday of the Month

Melrose United Methodist
PH: 608-488-5311
Pastor Loretta Waughtal
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

- Guardian Angels Catholic Parish**
715-284-5613 Ext. 2
Fr. Arivu Mariappan
COVID-19 COMPLIANT
Weekend Mass Schedule
May 1 to October 31
St. Joseph Church,
Black River Falls
Saturday 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.
St. Kevin Church, Melrose
Sunday 8:00 a.m.
November 1 to April 30
St. Joseph Church,
Black River Falls
Saturday 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m.
St. Kevin Church, Melrose
Sunday 10:00 a.m.
**Special occasion changes
can be found at:**
www.guardianangelscathparish.org

Assembly of God Alma Center
429 Turtle Pond Lane
Pastor Joshua John
[Sunday Worship Schedule](#)
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship
Wednesday Night
7:00 p.m. Adult, Youth, Children's Ministry

Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 544,
115 North 5th Street,
Black River Falls
Pastor Jenny Hatleli
Sunday School at 8:30 am
Sunday Worship service at 9:30am
Worship services are also on Radio
WWIS 99.7 Sundays at 10:30 am
YouTube: ELC Black River Falls
Facebook: facebook.com/ELCBRF
www.brflc.org
Centered in Christ + Sent to Serve

Bridge Church
740 Alder St.,
Black River Falls
John Cowles - Lead Pastor
Isaac Cowles - Youth Pastor
[Sunday Schedule](#)
Worship Service 9:00 a.m.
KIDS Church, Preschool & Nursery
Tuesday Night
6:30 p.m. - Men's Group
Wednesday Night
6:30 p.m. - Kids, Youth &
Adult Bible Study

St. John's United Church of Christ
Humbird • Rev. Pat Trotter
Sun. - 10:00 a.m. Worship

Trempealeau Valley Lutheran Church
W16933 W. Blair Rd., Taylor
Pastor Elden Simonson
Service: 10:00 a.m.
Last Sunday of each month

Countryside Evangelical Free Church
301 Green Street, Merrilan
Brian Pearson, Pastor
715-333-6001
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
Free Dinner Church Meal 5:00-6:30 p.m
every second and fourth Thursday

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod
136 West Main
Alma Center
gracelms@centurytel.net
PH: 715-964-2203
Rev. Gary Paul
9:00am Sunday School
& Bible Study
10:00am Divine Worship
Communion 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays

New Hope Community
Lutheran Church
W16346 Dettinger Rd.,
Rural Northfield
Pastor Claire Dutton
715-984-2571
"Hearing Assistance Available"
10:00 a.m. Church
10:00 a.m. Coffee hour,
Sunday School, Confirmation
and Adult Bible Study

Hardies Creek Lutheran Church
N18481 Cty. Rd., DD, Ettrick
PH: 608-525-4681
Pastor John Ashland
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

South Beaver Creek Lutheran
W16679 Cty. Rd., D, Ettrick
PH: 608-525-4681
Pastor John Ashland
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:15 a.m. Sunday School

Upper Pigeon Creek Lutheran Church
(ELCA) Rural Hixton
Pastor David Christianson
Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship
Holy Communion 2nd & 3rd
Sunday of the month

Shamrock Union Non-Denominational Church
Shamrock Union Church, Hwy. S, BRF
Rev. Cass Shell
8:00 a.m. Worship
Everyone is Welcome!

Morning Star Lutheran Church
350 N. Center St., Fairchild, WI
307-214-7033
Pastor Chad Seybt
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School/Bible Class 9:30 a.m.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church Fairview
N13740 Fairview Rd., Fairchild
Fr. Peter Kieffer
Sunday Mass
Confessions Sunday 8:00 - 8:25 a.m.
Mass Sunday 8:30 a.m.
Thursday Mass 8:30

- Faith Lutheran Church (WELS)**
Joel Neumann, Pastor
www.faihwels.com x 715-284-0772
Facebook: Faith Ev. Lutheran Church
YouTube:
[@faihwels.lutheranchurch-bla9393](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfaihwels)
Black River Falls Service Time:
Sunday - 8:00 a.m.
N6598 County Trunk A
Cataract Service Time:
Sunday -10:00 a.m.
6774 Acorn Avenue

Trinity Lutheran Church
(Church of the Lutheran Confession)
W6634 Railroad St., Millston, WI
307-214-7033 • Pastor Chad Seybt
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
341 W. Main, Alma Center
Fr. Peter Kieffer
Confession Tues. 6:15-6:45 p.m.
Sat. 4-4:30 p.m.
Mass Saturday
4:30 p.m. in Spanish
Sunday 10:15 a.m.
(also livestreamed on Facebook
from our page Immaculate
Joseph John)

St. John Lutheran Church
Rev. David Shudy
351 West Jefferson St.,
Black River Falls
Missouri Synod
stjohnbrf@gmail.com
715-284-7003
Sunday Mornings
Adult Bible Study 8:00 a.m.
Worship Service 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Facebook:
St John Lutheran Homeschool Co-op
Communion 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
Website: www.SJLchurchBRF.com

Hixton Northfield Lutheran Parish
Hixton • 715-963-4291
hixtonlp@gmail.com
Our Savior's 100 S State St
Hixton, WI 54635
Northfield N10750 County Rd FF
Hixton, WI 54635
Minister: Steve Aldach
**October 12, 2025
Worship Service**

Spirit Creek Lutheran Church
W12615 County Rd P
Black River Falls, WI 54615
LNSCsecretary@outlook.com
1st Sunday of each
Month will be
Holy Communion Services
**9:15 am Divine Worship
Sunday School
at 10:15am**

Little Norway Lutheran Church
N4755 Gus Rd
Black River Falls, WI
LNSCsecretary@outlook.com
1st Sunday of each
month will be
Holy Communion Services
**10:45 am Divine Worship
Sunday School
at 9:15am**

Peace With God Lutheran Church
816 2nd Ave. S, Onalaska, WI
307-214-7033
Pastor Chad Seybt
Saturday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Bible Class 10:30 a.m.

Merrillan UMC
Pastor Tom Clark
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
2nd and 4th Sundays of each month
(Handicap Accessible)

United Methodist Church
Alma Center
All God's People
Reverend Jon McHann
Worship Sunday is 9:30 AM

North Beaver Creek Lutheran Church ELCA
Ettrick, WI
www.northbeavercreek.com
PH: 608-525-2406
W11383 Co. Rd. C, Ettrick, WI 54627
Sunday, Oct. 12
Worship with
Pastor Kathleen Morris. 8:15. Brick.
Sunday School. 9:15. White.

United Methodist Church
Black River Falls
Rev. Inwha Shon
Worship Service 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School
9:15 a.m. (Sept.-May)

Ho-Chunk United Church of Christ
W8870 Mission Rd.,
Black River Falls
PH: 284-8737
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School Sept. - May 9:00 a.m.

Full Gospel
Reaching Out Ministries, Inc.
15822 Simonson Rd,
Hwy. 53 N., Whitehall
(715-538-4775)
Senior Pastor Allen Kroch
Sun. - 10:30 a.m. Worship
Every 3rd Thursday, food
distribution, noon to 5:30 p.m.

Community Christian Church
Pastor Craig Nelson
Black River Falls
N7274 State Hwy. 12/27
1 1/2 Miles N. of I-94
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship
Everyone Welcome
715-284-9818 • www.cccbrf.com

Lewis Valley Lutheran
W5402 Cty. Rd V, Holmen
Mindoro Lutheran
W3879 Cty. Rd DE, Mindoro
Mindoro Lions Bldg for Ecumenical Workshops
W3839 Lions Club Road, Mindoro
Rev. Emma Grinde 608-857-3474
www.mindorolewisvalleychurches.org
Rev. Emma Grinde 608-857-3474
Worship Schedule
8:30am worship at Lewis Valley Lutheran
9:00am Sunday School at Mindoro Lutheran
for students 4K-6th grade
10:00am worship at Mindoro Lutheran
Everyone Is Welcome! Please Join Us!

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
105 N. Washington St.,
Melrose, WI
(Pastor Chad Seybt)
307-214-7033
Sunday Worship 1:30 p.m.
Sunday School 12:45 p.m.
Bible Class 2:30 p.m.

Melrose Alliance Church
Pastor James Brandli
400 N. Washington St.
608-488-7733
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study

The following businesses urge you to attend the church of your choice

Interested in having your
business listed here?

Contact the Banner Journal @715-284-4304 (Black River Falls)

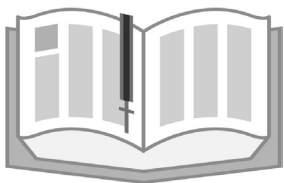
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284-9161

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Residential & Commercial

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715-963-ASAP (2727)

Toll Free: 1-877-284-ASAP (2727)

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Black River Falls, WI

715-284-2003

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TRANE Dealer

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Black River Falls, WI

Banner Journal & The Shopper

409 East Main Street

Black River Falls, WI 54615

715-284-4304

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If you would like to experience the joy and satisfaction of helping others, or are in need of assistance, please contact
Jackson County Interfaith at
715-284-7058
interfaith@jcivc.org
www.jcivc.org

Memory

ROBERT “BOB” DARKOW

Robert “Bob” Darkow, 83, passed away Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025, at the VA Nursing Home in Tomah.

A celebration of life for Bob will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, 2025, at the Jensen-Modjeski Funeral Home in Hixton, WI. A visitation will be held at the funeral home from 11 a.m. until the time of the service.



ANN MATILDA (ANDERSEN) ZILLMER

Ann Matilda (Andersen) Zillmer passed away Oct. 1, 2025.

She was born to Louis and Clara (Hansen) Andersen in 1937 and grew up in Monroe County. As the life’s partner of Carroll Zillmer, she became a mother early in her life, and by the time she was 28 years old had four children to raise. As her greatest gift to them, she instilled the desire and motivation to obtain higher education and to live out their dreams. It was never a question of if they would go to college, it was only where?

High points in her own life included obtaining a college degree from Upper Iowa University and working for years at General Telephone, which later became Verizon. There, she rose to the position of associate engineer and was tasked with obtaining land easements for the company in rural parts of the state. She later had many stories to tell about her experiences that would have worried her children had they known what she was up to and the challenges she faced. Based on her achievements, Governor Tommy Thompson appointed her to the Land Information Board for the State of Wisconsin.

Ann was known for her talent as a baker, producing luscious cinnamon rolls, dinner rolls and desserts, which were a standard for hunting season and holidays. She also enjoyed painting and sharing her work with family members. She was a committed fan of the Black River Falls Tigers as well as the Green Bay Packers. She loved her time golfing and socializing at the Skyline Golf Course where she was a devoted member of Skyline Friends.

She is survived by her brother, Robert Andersen; sons Roger (Janet) Zillmer, David (Cheryle) Zillmer, and Ronald Zillmer (Jamie); and her daughter Debra (Daniel Leaver). She leaves a family of eight grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren with two more soon to be born.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Carroll; sister Mildred Andersen Fromm; sister-in-law Lois Gottschalk Andersen and sister-in-law Shirley Zillmer Wilhelm.

A celebration of life for Ann will be held from 2 to 5 p.m., with time of sharing at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, 2025, at Skyline Golf Course in Black River Falls.

The family wishes to thank the employees of Pine View Terrace and Saint Croix Hospice for their kindness and skillful care. In lieu of flowers, consider contributing to either of these two organizations. We also thank Dr. Del Rodgers and his assistant, Amanda, for their assistance over decades. Finally, our heartfelt thanks to Suzanne Amo, Deb Miles and Beth Wood who worked with Ann as skilled home care providers for many years.

Buswell Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.



JULIA A. STEIN

Julia A. Stein (nee Fenney), 106, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2025. She was born Dec. 12, 1918. Julia graduated from Black River Falls High School. She was an avid Bucks fan.

She is survived by her beloved husband of 69 years, Jerome E. Stein; granddaughters Tammy (David) Tracy and Julie Howard; stepsons James (Laurel) Stein and Jeffrey Stein. She is further survived by many more grandchildren, great-grandchildren, a niece, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sons Delbert (Karen) Shelley and Vernon (Barb) Shelley; grandson Jeffrey Howard and siblings.

Visitation will be held Friday, Oct. 10, 2025, from 1 p.m. until the 2:30 p.m. funeral service at Wisconsin Memorial Park Chapel of the Chimes, 13235 W. Capitol Dr., Brookfield, WI 53005.

Randle-Dable-Brisk Funeral Home, Crematory and Pre-planning Service is honored to serve the family. For further information, call the funeral home at 262-547-4035 or visit online at www.randedable.com to leave the family an online tribute message.



KATHERINE E. PETITT

Katherine E. Pettitt, 91, passed away Sept. 19, 2025, at the Augusta Nursing Home.

Katherine was born to Casper and Elizabeth (Krause) Horn April 12, 1934, in Beloit, WI. She was united in marriage to William Pettitt May 12, 1951.

She was well known as the deli manager at Kohl’s Grocery store in Beloit, WI. She also worked at Roma Pizza plant in Black River Falls for five years. She loved reading, and, in her retirement, she learned how to cross-stitch. She made many beautiful blankets, pillowcases and other items throughout the years.

She is preceded in death by her husband, William; daughter, Mary Sasman, her parents, and multiple siblings.

Katherine’s memory will forever be in the hearts of her children, Wanda (Jeff) Amo, Joan (Michael) Esser, Joseph Pettitt, Julie (Brian) Majerus and Mark Pettitt (Becky Campfield); son-in-law Gerhart Sasman; 17 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held at 12 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025, at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Black River Falls, WI. A visitation will be held at the church from 11 a.m. until the time of service. An additional service will be held at 12 p.m. Monday, Oct. 13, 2025, at Hansen-Gravitt Funeral Home (424 Prospect St. Beloit, WI 53511). A visitation will be held at the funeral home from 11 a.m. until the time of service. Following the service, burial will take place in Eastlawn Cemetery in Beloit, WI.

The family prefers memorials be sent to St. Croix Hospice or to St. John Lutheran Church in Beloit.

Torgerson’s Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.



NANCY L. ARNESON

Nancy L. Arneson passed away after her battle with cancer Sept. 28, 2025, surrounded by the love of her family. Born Aug. 31, 1956, Nancy’s journey through life was marked by her adventurous spirit, faith, love of animals and passion for crafting and knitting. She will be truly missed by her beloved dogs. She lived much of her life in Florida where she found her calling as a travel agent; she enjoyed cruising and traveling the world.

She is survived by her daughter, Tracy (Matt) Laubenstein, and two sons, Rodney (Arlin) Patterson and Shawn (Julia) Laubenstein. Nancy loved being a grandmother, and her seven grandchildren will miss her deeply. She is also survived by her siblings, Bonnie Comstock, Pam Bjerke and Gordy, Randy and Jerry Arneson.

Nancy was preceded in death by her parents, Edith and Claire Arneson.

She touched the lives of many and her memories will continue to live on in our hearts forever.



KEVIN MORTENSON

Kevin Mortenson, 60, of Taylor, WI, passed away Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025, at Gundersen Hospital in La Crosse, WI.

Kevin was born Feb. 10, 1965, in Whitehall, WI. He graduated from Taylor High School and spent many years driving dump truck for Green Leaf Trucking. After a spinal injury in 2001, Kevin adapted to life’s changes and continued to find joy in the things he loved most.

Kevin loved the simple things in life — cheering on the Packers, Brewers, Badgers, NASCAR and of course, the Blair-Taylor Wildcats. He enjoyed John Deere tractors, watching tractor pulls and collecting antiques. Kevin also loved spending time with friends, sharing stories over cold drinks and plenty of laughs. But most of all, he cherished time with his two grandsons, who were truly the light of his life.

A celebration of life open house for Kevin will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10, 2025, at the Taylor Community Center.

Jensen-Modjeski Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.



KAY LOUISE PAAR

Kay Louise Paar, 84, of Black River Falls, WI, passed away Oct. 3, 2025, at Our Town Nursing Facility in Tomah, WI.

Kay was born March 22, 1941, to Laura and Rolland Nortman in Black River Falls, WI. After high school, Kay worked in insurance sales. She married David Marg; they had five children and later divorced. Later in life, she married Gerald Paar Oct. 4, 1985, and they spent 30 wonderful years together.

Kay spent her free time in various organizations, such as the ladies’ church group, where she did funeral meal planning, the women’s auxiliary and the homemakers club. She enjoyed taking care of her flowers and watering the flowers at the cemetery. She had a knack for antiques and enjoyed cooking and cheering on the Packers, but above all, being with her family, especially her grandchildren. She will be dearly missed.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Gerald; her parents, Rolland and Laura; son, Jason; and grandson, Alec.

Kay is survived by her kids, John (Deborah) Marg, Steve (Shari) Marg, Christine (Tim) Lewis, Lisa (Mark) Muth and Shawn Johnson; grandkids Ashley (Dan) Stetzer, Danielle (Ryan) Castle, Jordyn (Jake) Dobbs, Samantha (Cody Bloczynski) Marg, Austin (Mike) Stagliano, Jocelyn (Brayden) Winn, Jacob Lewis, Erin (Gary) Hegeman and Stuart Johnson; great-grandkids Jayce, Aydan, Trey, Clayton, Gage, Paisley, Ty, Fallyn, Sterling Kay and Clark; siblings Carol Hanson and Fred Nortman; along with many other friends and family.

Funeral services for Kay will be Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2025, at 11 a.m. at the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Pastor Jenny Hatleli will officiate. Friends and family are invited to the visitation from 10 a.m. until the time of the service.

The Torgerson’s Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements, 715-284-4321.



Obituaries can be emailed to news@bannerjournal.com. The deadline for submitting full obituaries is noon Monday. The Banner Journal will publish an announcement of upcoming memorial services scheduled if there is not room for a full obituary, and the full obituary will run the following week.

AND GOD SAYS . . .

I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes. (Romans 1:16)

Paul begins his letter to the church at Rome by affirming their faith in Jesus, which had become known all over the world. They were a living testimony to “the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes. . . For in the gospel [the good news of Jesus Christ] a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last. . .” (Romans 1:16-17). It is because of this great power that Paul exclaims that he is “not ashamed of the gospel.”

Rome, in Paul’s day, was a heathen culture, hostile to Christianity. To share one’s faith may cost one’s life, or maybe even worse, severe torture. But in spite of that, the Christians boldly witnessed to the saving hope of the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ, and their faith became known all over the world. Lives were saved from sin and the culture began to be changed.

In comparison, today it seems much of the Church is bending over backwards to fit in with the world rather than to change the world. We have been blessed to grow up in a Christian nation open to the gospel. We have sent missionaries all over the world to preach the gospel. But today, it seems that we have allowed our Christian culture to be trodden under by heathenism.

Might that be because we have really become “ashamed of the gospel” so that we no longer publically witness to the truth and reality of Jesus Christ, lest someone be offended? Thus, by our silence we imply our approval of the heathen message while failing to exercise faith in the power of the Gospel.

It is not that the world has become darker, but the fact that the light of believers have failed to shine very brightly. Jesus is the light of the world. We are his representatives, his stars to shine brightly (Philippians 2:15) in this dark world. Only as we let our light shine, will we ever impact this lost culture. It is time to speak the truth in love, even if the truth is not well received or very popular. Popularity is not a test of its power. Changed lives are.

Written by George Jaderston and paid for by donations from supporters.
For comments, call 715-896-2953. For support, send donations to P. O. Box 43, Melrose, WI 54642.



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Hip-Hop meets hope: Jared Scott inspires students

Jackson County Behavioral Health brought powerful conversations back to middle-schoolers this year, hosting motivational speaker and hip-hop artist Jared Scott as part of The Culture Shift tour.

Students from Black River Falls, Melrose-Mindoro, Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan, Osseo-Fairchild (who also included Eleva-Strum), Whitehall and Blair-Taylor gathered to hear Scott's message—one rooted in authenticity, resilience and the power of connection.

Known for his relatable style, Scott has spoken at more than 1,000 schools

nationwide, blending storytelling and music to inspire young people to own their stories. He opened up about his own challenges, validated the struggles many face today, and encouraged students to spark change in their schools and communities—one small connection at a time. He also stressed the importance of sharing one's story instead of hiding behind a fake smile or an "I'm fine. I'm just tired."

Jackson County Behavioral Health manager Jessica Stinson said middle-schoolers were chosen for the program again because of how critical these years are.

"This is a pivotal time for

youth," she explained, noting that many are navigating challenges like family changes, substance use at home or bullying. "We want them to know there is always hope for resiliency and a positive future." Behavioral health supervisor Dana Johnson agreed, adding that students connected deeply with Scott's words. "Many came up after the presentation to thank him and share their own stories."

To learn more about Jared Scott and his work with schools and communities, visit www.jaredscottspeaks.com.



Contributed photo
Jared Scott joins Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan students for a photo following his inspiring "Culture Shift" program. The event, sponsored by Jackson County Behavioral Health, focused on resilience, authenticity and the power of sharing one's story.



Contributed photo
Motivational speaker and hip-hop artist Jared Scott energizes students during his "Culture Shift" presentation at Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan Middle School. Students raised their hands in response to Scott's call to embrace authenticity and connection.



Contributed photo
After his presentation, Jared Scott took time to speak personally with students, listening to their stories and encouraging them to stay hopeful and true to themselves.

Forestry Parks discusses timber policies, Bruce Mound ski rate increases, camping rate increases

By June Thompson

The Clark County Forestry and Parks Committee met Friday, Sept. 19, to discuss timber policies, Bruce Mound Winter Sport Area rate increases and camping rate increases.

John Wendorski, forest administrator, informed the committee about the timber sale contract default. A logging contractor couldn't provide the necessary documentation regarding worker's compensation insurance, so his contract was suspended—no more cutting was allowed. It was later determined the contractor had violated the agreement, and the job (timber harvest) was suspended indefinitely.

"As of today (Sept 19), I have received nothing (from

the individual) to rectify this situation," said Wendorski. "We can terminate the contract if the policy has been breached/violated." The contractor can be considered ineligible for future timber contracts for two years. Regarding the timber sales, "we'll rebid it," said Wendorski.

Nate Beaver, recreation administrator, informed the committee that the residents of Foster Township did not want Department of Corrections (DOC) inmate crew members to help in their community.

According to Beaver, the DOC explained the program to the residents. "They (crew members) help us out and do a great job," said Beaver.

The crews are allowed to

be there (in designated communities) helping in the right circumstances such as natural disasters, said Forestry and Parks director Curtiss Lindner.

Beaver proposed rate increases to Bruce Mound Sports Area. "We had a successful season last year. There was good reception for the new lift and Indy Pass," said Beaver. "We only closed for one day (last year) due to the temperature."

Beaver proposed a \$5 rate increase for the lift passes, "Single season passes for adult/student/child increased an average of \$50 while the family season pass increased \$179," stated Beaver. (For example: A season pass rate for a child lift ticket was \$126; now it is \$176). "Friday Fun Night Season passes increased \$25," said Beaver. "The goal is to open Dec. 20." He proposed a 20% discount

(sale) for Nov. 1 – Dec. 15.

Beaver discussed revamping the camping cancellation policy. "The goal is to simplify things for us," he said. "This will eliminate administrative duties, but there are circumstances where people do want a refund." He also proposed sending email reminders to customers that they have credit.

Extended stay camping was discussed. "Russell Memorial Park (campground) is the place to go for extended stay camping," said Beaver. "We don't get very many long-term campers, except at Russell Memorial Park." Only certain sites are for extended-stay camping.

"Extended-stay campers may reserve during this time frame (May 1 - Sept. 30) of the entire length of the season or just a portion if they choose," Beaver stated. He hopes to get feedback from a survey,

and "come up with different options," he said.

"Off-season camping begins Oct. 1 - April 30. All campgrounds have reduced rates and amenities. Water may be shut off without warning due to freezing temperatures," stated Beaver.

Campgrounds: Rock Dam, Russell Memorial Park, Snyder and Mead Lake have a heated shower building that is typically open through the end of the regular deer gun season but is not guaranteed. Self-registration is required and will be verified by staff. Off season camping (Oct. 1 – April 30) is \$20 to \$25/night.

There was further discussion about camping rate increases for the 2026 season.

"Camping fees for in-season camping, May 1 – Sept. 30, are increasing \$4/night in 2026," stated Beaver. The department won't be increasing off-season rates

or increasing camping rates for dry camping in county forests, either.

The use of dumping stations was discussed. "Unregistered campers will continue to be charged \$10, while registered campers will be charged \$5," stated Beaver. He suggested having someone (employee) there on Sundays at peak time when people are leaving.

Dump stations are for dumping the tank, not for flushing the systems. It was suggested the \$5 fee for campers be added to the customer's camping bill at the beginning of the stay.

"It turned out to be a pretty good season," said Beaver.

The next Forestry Parks meeting is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 10, at 9 a.m., Room 307.



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charge. Follow the instructions from the manufacturer. Buy new chargers from the
manufacturer or one that the manufacturer has approved. Charge your device on a
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County Line Fire & Rescue Department members are (l-r) Kevin Forsting, Ray Casper, Claudia Fields, Carrie June, Jessie Hoff, Janel Wagner, Wyatt Sachen, Jayson DeLange, Stephanie Simonson, Hunter Loveland, Scott Loveland, Travon Rogers, Brad Pedersen, Lee Pedersen, Timothy Wulf, Derrick June, Gween Lunderville, Al Lunderville, Jordan Simonson and Neil Strandberg. Members not pictured are Amanda Strandberg, Blake DeLange, Brecken Young, Brian Garbers, Dale Bue, David Laufenberg, Devin Newell, Don Hart, Ed Lloyd, Ed Rollins, Elizabeth Jones, Issac Trachsel, Jacob Bue, Jean Comstock, Jeff Casper, Jeff Gaede, Lisa Montney, Michelle Kudrick, Mike Garbers, Robert Mitchell, Royce Mitchell, Ryan Stubrud, Stephanie Rommel, Tom Jones and Wayne Lunderville.

Hixton Volunteer Fire Department



Contributed photo

Hixton Volunteer Fire Department members are (back, l-r) chief Tom Davidson, safety officer Randy Johnson, FF Luke Gerke, FF Mike Muth, FF Austen Morales, FF Ed Jensen, lieutenant Scott Blanchard, FF Darin Hudson, FF Travon Rogers, FF Dave McCullough, lieutenant Travis Todd, assistant chief Andrew Krueger, (front) lieutenant Zac Durst, FF Ramiro Rodriguez, probationary FF Kyle Horton, secretary-treasurer Grant Anderson, grant writer Jamie Morden, FF Oscar Rodriguez and captain Paul Olson. Firefighters not pictured - captain Dustin Mortenson, FF Cole Osley, FF Matt Peterson, FF Luke Peters, radio tech Adam Kohnert and FF Blake Dieber.

Send news to editor@bannerjournal.com.

City Point Fire Department

Fire chief - Mike Gardner
Assistant chief - Clint Jepson
Firefighters - Kyle Brockman,
Eli Parker, Cody Stanton,
Robert Delasky and Scott Coyle

Hatfield Fire Department



Contributed photos

Hatfield Fire Department firefighters are (above, l-r) James Limberg, Greg Hulstein, Stefan Knoll, Becky Berg-Shramek, Tim Schaefer, Jonathan Alberts, Jackie Gunderson, Alina Limberg, Jeanne Campbell, (pictured left) Trey Manthey-Lamon and firefighters not pictured are Cory Bue, Zack Hulstein, Dalton Lamon, Hunter Loveland, Wyatt Sachen and Sue Schaefer.

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Fire Prevention Week Oct. 5-11

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Melrose Fire Department firefighters are (back, l-r) Brant Young, Dakota Knourek, Michael Young, Cody Kamrowski, Josh Kunes, Craig Chandler, Shawn Byom, Mike Kunes, Ray Knudtson, Gary Zager, (front) Nate Hruza, Mindy Wagner, Justin Blaken, Nick Waughtal, Tim Kunes, Jeff Waughtal, Nick Kunes, Chris Pearse, Jayden Mathison, Brooke Wagner and Jaden Sacia. Firefighters not pictured are Clifton Stanton, Mitchell Johnson, Garrett Goodenough, Jake Dobbs, Jorey Dobbs, Houston Nelson and Steve Cleveland.

Taylor Fire Department



Taylor Fire Department firefighters are (back, l-r) Ben Woodward, Captain Aaron Boe, Assistant Chief Sam Kling, Chief Chris Burnett, Assistant Chief Brandon Lofgren, Captain Kyle Janzen, Daryl Boe, (front) Ryan Quarne, Randy Joten, Chet Rose, Jon Crocker, Glen Miller, Gary Boe and Greg Kessel.

Charge into fire safety!

This year’s Fire Prevention Week™ campaign, October 5-11, “Charge into Fire Safety™: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home,” works to educate everyone about using these batteries safely. The campaign stresses how important it is to buy, charge and recycle safely when it comes to lithium-ion batteries.

Charge into Fire Safety: 3 Steps

Buy only listed products. When buying a product that uses a lithium-ion battery look for a safety certification mark such as UL, ETL, or CSA. This means it meets important safety standards.

Charge devices safely. Always use the cords that came with the product to charge. Follow the instructions from the manufacturer. Buy new chargers from the manufacturer or one that the manufacturer has approved. Charge your device on a hard surface. Don’t overcharge your device. Unplug it or remove the battery when it’s fully charged.

Recycle batteries responsibly. Don’t throw lithium-ion batteries in the trash or regular recycling bins because they could start a fire. Recycle your device or battery at a safe battery recycling location. Visit call2recycle.org to find a recycling spot near you.

Black River Falls Fire Department



Black River Falls Fire Department firefighters are (not in order) John Jessop, Darren Vase - assistant chief, Paul Olson, Mark Nordahl - chief, Dan Nortman, Justin Jessop - captain, Frank Koresh - assistant chief, Jody Stoker, Kevin Keisow, Ryan Whaley, Dominic Vase, Robert Carpenter, Mike Osegard - captain, Tyler Rush - assistant chief, Lucas Johnson, Anthony Spurling, Chris Poff, Dawson Vase, Mathew Brauner - captain, Brad Chown, Eli Parker, Addie Martinez, Sam Mattison, Sawyer Doud, Phillip Haugstad, Stephanie Wathen, Joe Gaier, Dakota Tennant, Kaylee Eversum and Matthew Rieck.

Prepare teen drivers for the road ahead

October Law of the Month: Teen driver safety

A teen driver is involved in a crash every 28 minutes in Wisconsin. Inexperience, distractions and speed often contribute to these crashes. Parents and caregivers have an important role in teaching teen drivers to make smart choices before handing over the keys.

“Ongoing conversations about safe driving can go a long way in preparing teen drivers to take the wheel,” Wisconsin State Patrol Superintendent Tim Carnahan said. “Set aside dedicated time to practice driving with your teen and reinforce the rules of the road. Safe driving conversations can start while kids are still in the backseat. Be sure to always model safe driving and take opportunities

to talk about safe choices.”

In 2024, teen drivers were involved in 18,823 crashes in Wisconsin causing 70 fatalities and 5,782 injuries. There were 24 teenage drivers killed in these crashes. The Wisconsin State Patrol’s October Law of the Month provides guidance for parents and teens to promote safety on the road and prevent crashes involving young drivers.

Talk with teens about safe driving

Parents and caregivers play an important role in helping teens gain the experience and confidence they need to be a good driver. Have conversations with kids about the importance of safe driving and be clear on the rules:

Never drive impaired.

Wisconsin law requires absolute sobriety for drivers under age 21. Be sure to also remind teens of the dangers of riding with someone who is impaired.

Buckle up. Seat belt use is one of the easiest ways to stay safe in a crash. Whether a driver or passenger, seat belts save lives and they are required by law.

Avoid distractions. Anything that takes your eyes off the road can be a distraction, especially cell phones. Cell phone use is banned for drivers with probationary licenses and instructional permits, except to report an emergency. If needed, pull over to a safe location when calling to report an emergency.

Follow the speed limit.

Traffic crashes are more dangerous when they involve excessive speed. Speeding is one of the main contributing factors for crashes in Wisconsin.

Teens need to understand the rules of the road and follow the restrictions outlined in Wisconsin’s graduated driver licensing law to prevent dangerous situations for themselves and other motorists. Learn more about the steps for teens to obtain a driver license at wisconsin.gov/teendriver.

View the October Law of the Month video and news release online: wisconsin.gov/Pages/about-wisconsin/newsroom/law/lom.aspx.

Work will soon begin on the “Hunters Guide.”

If you have a hunting story and/or photos to share, please send them to editor@bannerjournal.com.

The Hunters Guide comes out with the Banner Journal and The Shopper the week prior to the gun deer hunt. Photos of fishing or hunting - anything outdoor-related - are welcome.

If you need help telling a story, call 715.284.4304.

The deadline for submitting those photos and tales is Tuesday, Oct. 21.

Sports

Wildcats football wins homecoming game in a blowout

Backups get significant playing time

By Garrett Aleckson

The Blair-Taylor (BT) Wildcats football team hosted Independence/Gilmanton (IG) Friday, Oct. 3, for BT's homecoming game.

The game was a Dairyland Conference battle, and BT was looking to end its three-game losing streak.

BT wasted no time, as the Wildcats were quickly up 35-0 early in the second quarter.

IG looked to put a solid drive together, but BT had other plans. The Wildcats got pressure on the quarterback and hit him as he threw the ball. BT intercepted the pass.

BT took over on IG's 20-yard line after the interception. The Wildcats got one first down, but it was negated by a penalty.

Facing third down with 18 yards to go, quarterback Kole Trapp scrambled to his

right to evade pressure. Trapp lobbed a pass to Jaxon Boe to give BT the first down. Trapp and Boe connected again for the five-yard touchdown pass, giving BT the 41-0 lead.

BT took a 41-0 lead into halftime. The Wildcats put the backups in for the second half.

IG started the third quarter with the ball. Collin Johnson tackled IG's ball carrier for a loss of three. On fourth down, Colby Dahl and Carter Markos, both freshmen, sacked the quarterback to give BT the ball.

The Wildcats took over with the ball on IG's 29-yard line.

Dahl was put in at quarterback. He ran for the first down. Then running back Anthony Haas had a strong run all the way down to IG's four-yard line. Haas capped off BT's drive with a two-yard

touchdown run. BT converted the two-point attempt to take a 49-0 lead with 4:21 remaining in the third quarter.

IG got the ball on the 50-yard line after a good kick return. IG mixed up its play calls, using both runs and passes. IG got on the board on a seven-yard touchdown pass to make the score 49-6 with 43 seconds left in the third quarter.

BT started its drive on its 40. After a false start, Karter Kindschy took the ball and ran for a first down. BT's drive stalled, however. The Wildcats faced fourth down with 11 yards to go, and had to punt.

IG scored on a 39-yard touchdown run late in the fourth quarter to make the final score 49-12.

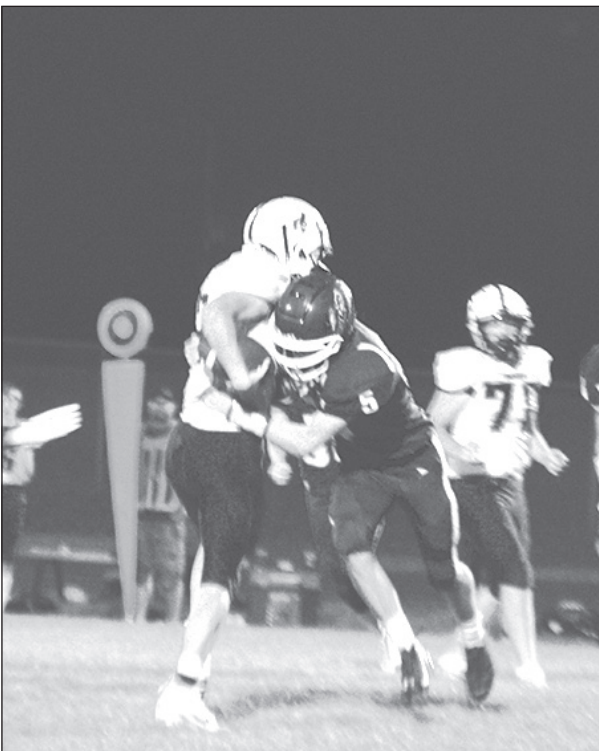
Trapp completed four of nine passes for 46 yards and two touchdowns. Trapp

added 36 rushing yards to his stat line. Payton Kelly completed one of one pass for 44 yards and one touchdown.

Johnson had eight rushing carries for 169 yards and three touchdowns. Evan Boe had four rushes for 58 yards. Haas had two carries for 18 yards and one touchdown. Dahl had three carries for 12 yards. Kindschy had two rushes for 15 yards.

C.J. Dummer caught one pass for 44 yards and one touchdown. Boe had two receptions for 33 yards and one touchdown. Connor Kruse caught one pass for 13 yards and one touchdown. Markos and Kelly each added one reception.

BT is 4-3 overall and 2-3 in the Dairyland Conference. The Wildcats will play at Melrose-Mindoro (5-2 overall, 3-2 in the conference) Friday, Oct. 10.



Garrett Aleckson/Banner Journal

Colby Dahl, a freshman of the Blair-Taylor Wildcats, sacks the Independence/Gilmanton quarterback on fourth down in the Wildcats' 49-12 win on homecoming.



Garrett Aleckson/Banner Journal

Jaxon Boe of the Blair-Taylor Wildcats catches a pass near the sideline and breaks multiple tackles to get the Wildcats' inside the opponent's 10-yard line.



Garrett Aleckson/Banner Journal

Anthony Haas of the Blair-Taylor Wildcats powers into the end zone for the rushing touchdown in the Wildcats' 49-12 homecoming win Oct. 3.



Garrett Aleckson/Banner Journal

Collin Johnson of the Blair-Taylor Wildcats runs up the field during the Wildcats' 49-12 homecoming win Oct. 3. Johnson had three rushing touchdowns and 169 yards.

Tigers golfers advance to sectionals

By Garrett Aleckson

The Black River Falls (BRF) Tigers girls golf team advanced to sectionals after the team performed well at regionals in Arcadia Wednesday, Oct. 1.

BRF finished third as a team with 406 strokes. Wisconsin Dells took first with

364 and Aquinas was second with 384. Adams-Friendship placed fourth with 414. Arcadia was fifth with 420. Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau took sixth with 458. Westby/Viroqua and Cochrane-Fountain City did not have enough golfers to place as teams.

Kaylee Wood led the Ti-

gers by finishing sixth overall with a score of 94. McKenzie Apicella shot 97 strokes. Andrea Cogswell shot 103, Jordyn King shot 112 and Lillian Harvieux shot 115 strokes.

BRF was scheduled to compete in the sectionals at Racine Monday, Oct. 6.

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Sports

Tigers cross country hosts invite, then runs at Osseo

By Garrett Aleckson

The Black River Falls (BRF) Tigers hosted the BRF Invitational Tuesday, September 30, at the Skyline Golf Club. The meet showcased the competition from the Coulee Conference and the sectionals.

The Tiger boys placed seventh out of nine teams.

Lukas Cornelius finished in the upper half of the 85 runners in 38th place with a time of 20:56. Charlie Cook was close behind, placing 44th with 21:49. Aiden Funmaker came in 61st with

23:20. Kunu Youngthunder took 68th place with 24:51. Justin Weller was 72nd with 25:30. Zayden Killian finished 74th with 25:53. Silas Cassidy took 80th with 27:21. Owen Zenz came in 83rd with 28:24. Loki Weinman placed 84th with 28:25.

BRF's girls did not have enough runners to place as a team.

Senior Jaide Charles and freshman Farrah Laufenberg led the way for the Tiger girls, finishing 31st and 32nd, respectively, out of 62 runners. "They have proved to be

a consistent combination for our girls all season," said Tigers head coach Jarod Meyer.

Grace Tande placed 56th with a time of 29:04. Audrey Kitowski took 59th with 30:33.

BRF ended the week by traveling to Osseo Thursday, Oct. 1.

The Tiger boys finished seventh.

Cornelius led the way by placing 12th out of 74 with a time of 19:25. Funmaker took 39th with 22:22. Cook finished 41st with 22:27. Youngthunder came in 46th

with 23:35. Weller was 55th with 25:16. Brody Jaeger finished 64th with 27:22. Cassidy placed 65th with 27:47. Weinman came in 73rd with 33:49. Owen Zenz was 74th with 33:51.

The BRF girls did not place, but had two runners in the top 15.

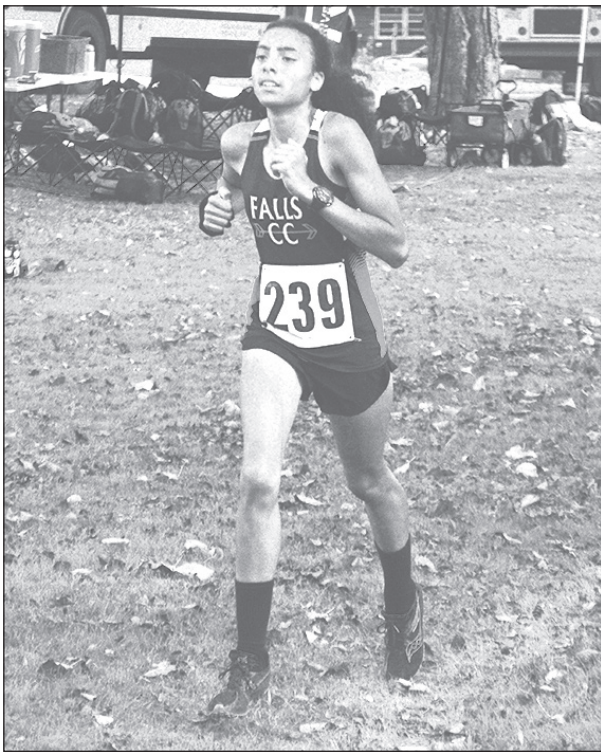
Charles led the way by finishing 13th out of 51 with a time of 23:19. Laufenberg took 14th with 23:19. Kitowski placed 29th with 27:08. Tande came in 35th with 29:08.



Garrett Aleckson/Banner Journal
Farrah Laufenberg of the Black River Falls Tigers eclipses the final slope of the course at the Tigers' home meet. She finished 32nd.



Garrett Aleckson/Banner Journal
Justin Weller of the Black River Falls Tigers keeps his pace up as he nears the finish line in the Tigers' home meet. Weller placed 72nd.



Garrett Aleckson/Banner Journal
Jaide Charles of the Black River Falls Tigers powers to the finish line in the Tigers' home meet Sept. 30. Charles placed 31st.



Garrett Aleckson/Banner Journal
Loki Weinman (l) and **Owen Zenz** of the Black River Falls Tigers run together in the Tigers' home meet Sept. 30. Zenz finished 83rd and Weinman took 84th.

Mustangs football dominates Beavers

By Garrett Aleckson

The Melrose-Mindoro (MM) Mustangs football team dominated the Augusta Beavers in Augusta Friday, Oct. 3. MM left with a 34-6 win.

MM entered the game 4-2 overall and 2-2 in Dairyland Conference play. Augusta was 0-6 overall and 0-4 in the Dairyland Conference.

The Mustangs got on the board in the first quarter. Quarterback Brady Blaken connected with Lane Rhyme on a pass for a 17-yard touchdown catch. Ethan Her made the extra point to give the Mustangs a 7-0 lead.

MM struck for another score in the second quarter. The Mustangs scored on a

72-yard touchdown pass from Blaken to Isaiah Kleinsmith. Her made the extra point to give MM a 14-0 lead heading into halftime.

The Mustangs extended the lead in the third quarter. Kleinsmith found the end zone again, this time on a nine-yard run. Her made the extra point to extend the Mustangs' lead to 21-0.

Augusta eventually got on the board later in the third quarter. The Beavers scored on a two-yard run to cut MM's lead to 21-6 late in the third quarter.

MM slammed the door shut on any hopes of a comeback in the fourth quarter. Kleinsmith scored again, this time on the defensive side

of the ball. Kleinsmith intercepted a pass and returned it 63 yards for the touchdown. Her made the kick to increase MM's lead to 28-6.

The Mustangs scored one more time on another run play. This time, Brewer Schlifer found some room and scored on a 13-yard run. Her made the kick to give MM the 35-6 win.

"Our defense played a good game, getting a turnover for a touchdown," commented Mustangs head coach Tory Lockington. "I'm really proud of how the kids stepped up tonight and got a great team win. Hopefully we can keep it going into next week."

MM held Augusta to just

47 total yards of total offense. The Mustangs, meanwhile, had 332 yards of total offense. MM rushed for 133 yards and passed for 199 yards.

Blaken completed seven of 19 passes for 199 yards and two touchdowns. He also rushed eight times for 46 yards.

Colton Koss had three carries for 53 yards.

Kleinsmith had two receptions for 91 yards and one touchdown.

MM is 5-2 overall and 3-2 in the Dairyland Conference. The Mustangs are scheduled to host the Blair-Taylor Wildcats, who are 4-3 overall and 2-3 in the Dairyland Conference.

Tigers volleyball picks up a conference win

By Garrett Aleckson

The Black River Falls (BRF) Tigers volleyball team netted its first Coulee Conference win of the season last week. BRF traveled to face Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau (GET) Tuesday, Sept. 30.

BRF defeated its conference rival in four sets.

The Tigers won the first set 25-22. GET bounced back to win the second set 25-18. BRF regained its footing to win the third set 25-18. The Tigers closed out the match with a 25-20 win in the fourth set.

Evelyn Bolger led the Tigers with five aces. Olivia Larkin netted 17 kills and four blocks. Tylan Brown added 20 digs and three aces. Morgan Berg had one block. Hayden Brown netted 22 assists.

BRF ended the week by

traveling to face off against Viroqua Thursday, Oct. 2.

Viroqua defeated BRF 3-1.

Viroqua won the first set by a score of 25-15. Viroqua also won the second set 25-22. BRF stayed alive by winning the third set 25-19. Viroqua closed out the match with a 25-17 win in the fourth set.

Larkin led the Tigers with 20 kills and three aces. Hayden Brown had 18 assists, 22 digs and two aces. Tylan Brown added 25 digs and two aces. McKinzie Rose had two aces and two blocks. Aralyn WhiteEagle added two blocks. Berg had one block.

BRF is 5-20 overall and 1-6 in the Coulee Conference. The Tigers were scheduled to host GET Tuesday, Oct. 7. BRF is scheduled to host Thursday, Oct. 7.

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Sports

Wildcats volleyball picks up one conference win

Chloe Medenblik and Andrea Waldera reach 500 career kills

By Garrett Aleckson

The Blair-Taylor (BT) Wildcats volleyball team split its two Dairyland Conference matches last week. BT opened the week by traveling to take on Eau Claire Immanuel Lutheran (ECIL) Tuesday, Sept. 30.

ECIL defeated BT 3-0. The first two sets were decided by just three points. ECIL won the first and second sets by scores of 25-22. ECIL defeated BT 25-13 in the third set to sweep BT.

Chloe Medenblik led the Wildcats with 10 kills, five aces, six digs, one block and one assist. Andrea Waldera netted nine kills, six blocks,

five digs and one ace. Alyssa Tubbs added two kills, four digs and one assist. Addison Lejcher had two kills and two digs. Landonn Daffinson had six digs and one kill. Elissa Smetana had two aces and one dig.

BT hosted Osseo-Fairchild (OF) Thursday, Oct. 2, for another Dairyland Conference test.

The Wildcats celebrated Medenblik and Waldera, who both reached the career milestone of 500 kills.

BT won the match 3-0 against OF.

The Wildcats jumped out to a 7-2 lead in the first set. BT extended its lead to 13-6

before OF took a timeout. The Wildcats cruised to a 25-13 win.

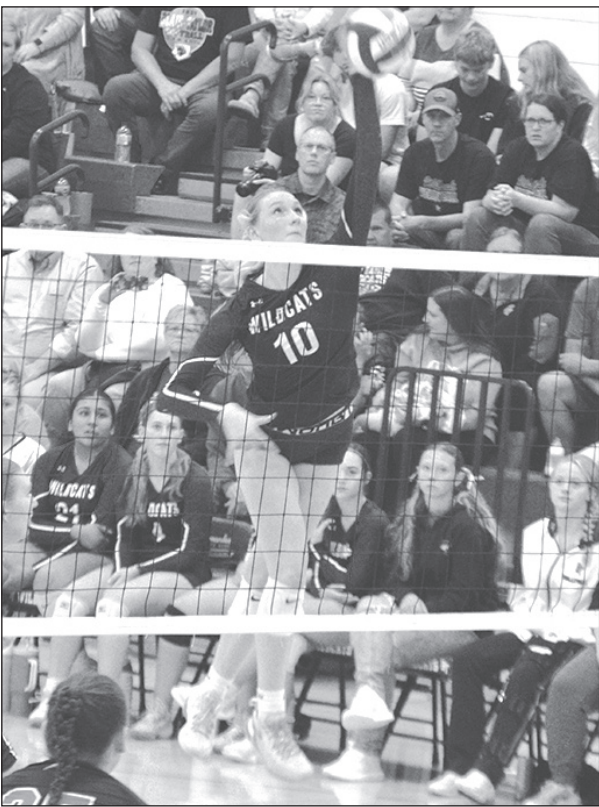
Both teams traded points early in the second set, as the it was tied 6-6. OF slowly built an 11-7 lead, but BT battled back to tie the set 11-11.

OF tried to pull away again by taking a 17-13 lead. BT roared back to tie the set 18-18. The pendulum swung again, as OF scored four consecutive points to take a 22-18 lead. The Wildcats were not finished, however, and rallied to win the set 25-23.

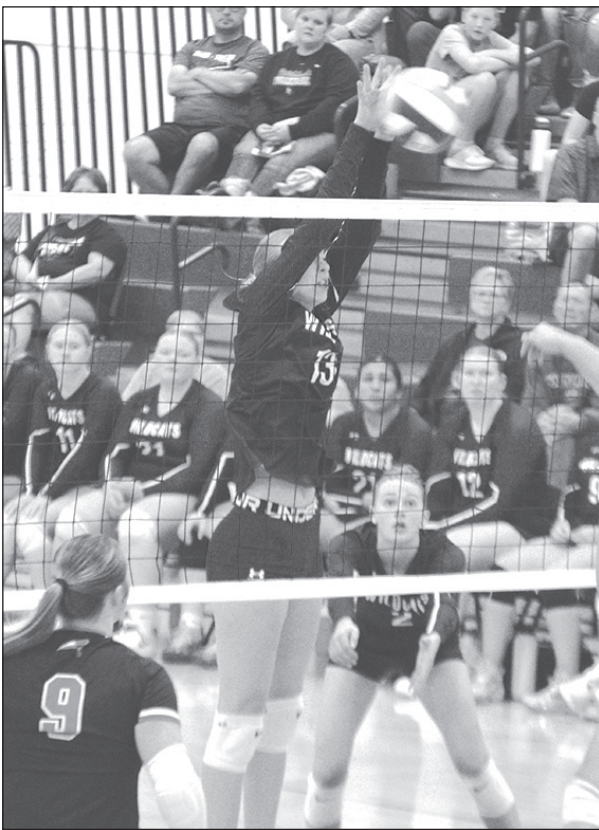
BT slammed the door shut on OF in the third set with a 25-13 win to secure the sweep.

Medenblik had a team-high 18 kills with three aces, five digs and one assist. Waldera had eight kills, seven digs, three blocks and two aces. Charlyse Horton had a team-high 15 assists with three kills. Smetana had 14 assists, four digs and three aces. Tubbs added seven digs and one kill.

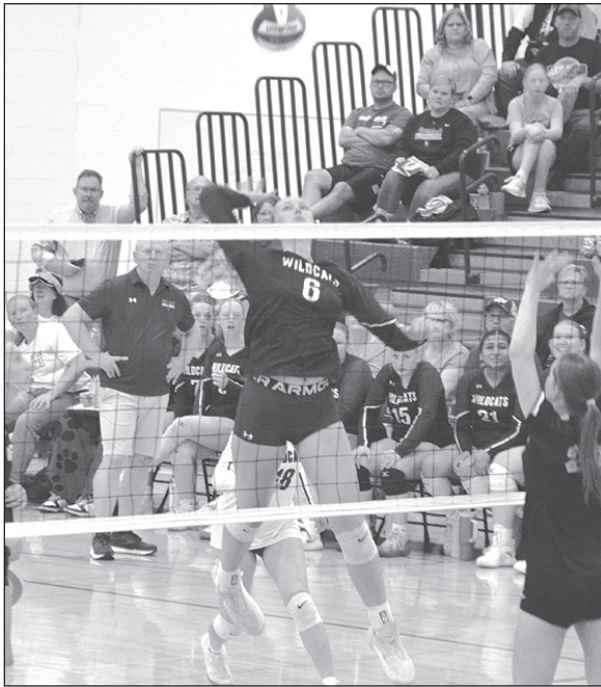
BT is 11-6 overall and 5-1 in the Dairyland Conference. The Wildcats were scheduled to host Independence/Gilmanton Tuesday, Oct. 7. BT is scheduled to play at Alma/Pepin Thursday, Oct. 9.



Garrett Aleckson/Banner Journal
Chloe Medenblik of the Blair-Taylor Wildcats spikes the ball during the Wildcats' 3-0 win over Osseo-Fairchild. She had 18 kills. Medenblik has over 500 career kills.



Garrett Aleckson/Banner Journal
Charlyse Horton (No. 13) of the Blair-Taylor Wildcats blocks a spike in the Wildcats' 3-0 win over Osseo-Fairchild Oct. 2.



Garrett Aleckson/Banner Journal
Andrea Waldera of the Blair-Taylor Wildcats goes for the kill in the Wildcats' win over Osseo-Fairchild. Waldera had eight kills and was recognized for achieving 500 career kills.



Garrett Aleckson/Banner Journal
Alyssa Tubbs of the Blair-Taylor Wildcats bumps the ball as she received the serve.

Tigers football falls to Raiders in high-scoring affair

By Garrett Aleckson

The Black River Falls (BRF) Tigers football team came up short against the Arcadia Raiders Friday, Oct. 3, in a Coulee Conference showdown.

Both teams combined for 70 points, but Arcadia came out on top 44-26.

Arcadia netted a season-high point total against BRF. The Tigers have dropped their second consecutive game.

Arcadia rushed the ball 52 times for 346 yards and four touchdowns. The Raiders did pass some, completing 12 of

17 passes for 166 yards and two touchdowns.

No stats from the game against Arcadia were available for BRF from the game by press time.

Before the game against Arcadia, Braylon Backaus had thrown for 1,018 yards, 11 touchdowns and seven interceptions. Backaus also had 49 rushing carries for 321 yards and one touchdown.

Entering last week, Austin Lund had 63 rushes for 315 yards and three touchdowns. Grady Meek had 65 carries for 310 yards and two touch-

downs.

In receiving, Mason Meimann had 10 receptions for 337 yards and six touchdowns. Gavin Bolger had 16 catches for 228 yards and three touchdowns. Ryan Gunderson caught 11 passes for 148 yards. Ben Breining had nine receptions for 125 yards and one touchdown. Cole Gearing had four catches for 79 yards and one touchdown.

On defense, Roman Madvig had five tackles for a loss (TFLs) of yards. Nathan Gargulak had four TFLs. Ben

Bresee added three TFLs. Gearing, Lund, Dashaun Hall and Andrew Gunderson each had two TFLs. Aidan Krista, Jason Williams and Ryan Gunderson each had one TFL.

In sacks, Madvig and Andrew Gunderson each had two. Gargulak and Hall each had one.

Meimann and Bolger each had two interceptions.

BRF is 1-6 overall. The Tigers are scheduled to play at Viroqua (0-7 overall, 0-5 in the Coulee) Friday, Oct. 10.

Bowling Results

Tuesday Swingers' Bowling League

Strike Time Lanes, Neillsville

Sept. 16 - Week 3

Team Standings:	W-L
Sniteman Pharmacy	14-7
Clinic Pharmacy	13-8
Millis Trucking	12-9
Gesche's Funeral Home	11-10
Sport Country	9-12

Handicap Game	Team Highs
Clinic Pharmacy-849	Handicap Series
Sniteman Pharmacy-817	Clinic Pharmacy-2332
Gesche's Funeral Home-784	Sniteman Pharmacy-2305
	Gesche's Funeral Home-2227

Scratch Game	Individual Highs
Sandy Drescher-177	Scratch Series
Pam Reetz-173	Beverly Panagiotaros-480
Beverly Panagiotaros-172	Ginny Schuld-466
Ginny Schuld-169	Melissa Fisher-448
	Margaret Gruzebeck-445

Split Pick-up:	
Margaret Gruzebeck 7-6-10	Gayle Vatne 3-10
Pam Reetz 3-10	LaVonne Liebszeit 3-6-7-10
Mary Norton 4-6	

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Sports

Lincoln Hornets cross country team hosts invite

By Garrett Aleckson

The Lincoln Hornets cross country team hosted the Hornet Invite Thursday, Oct. 2. Lincoln's girls all finished inside the top 30 overall. The Hornet girls did not place as a team.

Samantha Menning led the Hornets by finishing 20th with a time of 28:53.53. Vivian Prindle was close behind, as she placed 21st with

29:49.15. Addison Robers took 27th with 33:55.20. Zoie Scholze came in 28th with 34:09.58.

The Hornet boys also did not place as a team. The three Hornets finished in the top 35.

Weston Rowekamp led the Lincoln boys by finishing 26th with a time of 23:31.87. Max Prindle took 27th with 23:38.74. Owen Scholze placed 35th with 27:50.95.

Mustangs volleyball drops two conference matches

By Garrett Aleckson

The Melrose-Mindoro (MM) Mustangs volleyball fell in two Dairyland Conference matches last week. MM first traveled to take on the Cochrane-Fountain City (CFC) Pirates Tuesday, Sept. 30.

CFC left with a 3-1 win over MM. All four sets were decided by five points or fewer.

The Mustangs pulled out the win in the first set, winning by a score of 25-22. CFC responded with a 25-23 win in the second set. The Pirates won the third set 25-22. CFC won the fourth set 25-20 to defeat MM 3-1.

Bella Rozek led the Mustangs with 12 kills, nine digs and one ace. Cooper Zeman had six kills, one ace, five blocks, 12 digs and one assist. Miranda Banse added

five kills, five digs and five assists. Amber Bradley had five kills, two blocks and one dig. Opal Buchanan had 19 digs, 16 assists and two aces. Anna Radcliffe added 16 digs and two aces.

MM ended the week by hosting the Alma/Pepin (AP) Eagles Thursday, Oct. 2.

AP defeated MM 3-0. The Eagles won the first set 25-18. AP won the second set 25-22 and won the third set by a score of 25-19.

Radcliffe had 14 digs. Rozek added 10 kills. Buchanan had 15 assists.

MM is 5-12 overall and 2-4 in the Dairyland Conference. The Mustangs were scheduled to host Osseo-Fairchild Tuesday, Oct. 7. MM is scheduled to play at Lincoln Thursday, Oct. 9, and play at an Osseo-Fairchild tournament Saturday, Oct. 11.

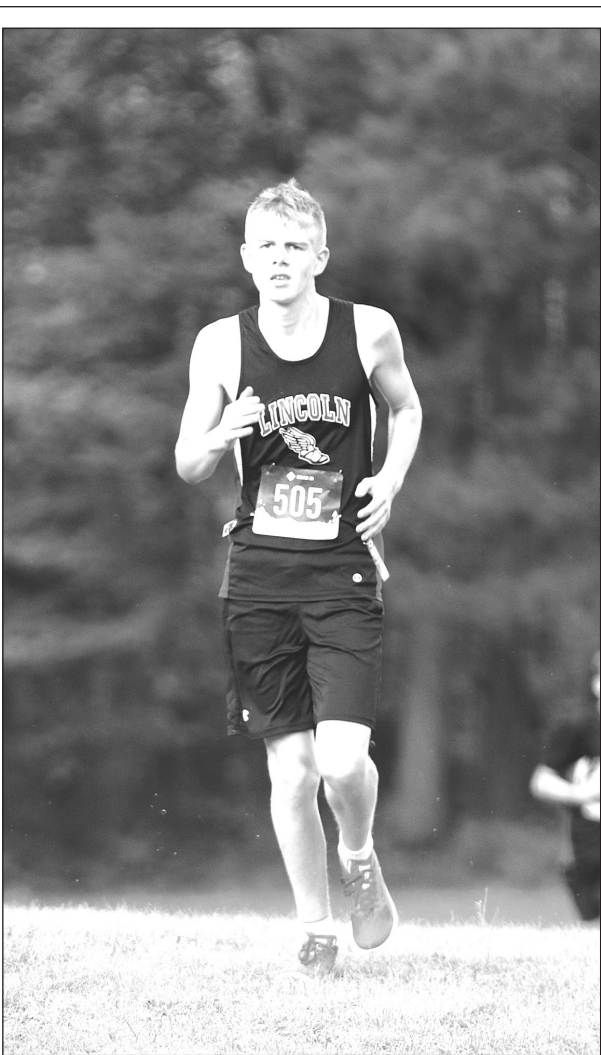


Photo by Angela Fischer
Weston Rowekamp of the Lincoln Hornets cross country team runs at the Hornet invite Thursday, Oct. 2. He finished 26th.



Photo by Angela Fischer
The Lincoln Hornet girls begin their race at the Hornet invite Oct. 2. Pictured (l-r) are Samantha Menning, Addison Robers, Zoie Scholze and Vivian Prindle.

Please send game and match info/stats from
Black River Falls, Melrose-Mindoro, Lincoln and Blair-Taylor high schools to
reporter@bannerjournal.com.
Thank you for your assistance.

ATTENTION SPORTSMEN!

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Send us your hunting, fishing, trail camera photos and stories to be featured in the 2025 Hunter's Guide! Bring your story or photos in by Oct. 21. We will process them right away or you can pick up later.

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Tigers tennis takes fourth at Coulee Conference tournament

By Garrett Aleckson

The Black River Falls (BRF) Tigers girls tennis team hosted the Coulee Conference tournament Tuesday, Sept. 30.

BRF took fourth with 16 points. Luther finished first with 48 points. West Salem placed second with 42. Assumption was third with 24.

One of the Tigers' doubles teams finished second in their bracket. BRF also had multiple athletes finish fourth in their respective brackets.

BRF's No. 3 doubles team of Anna Janowski and Samantha Berra placed second in the bracket. They won their first-round match 6-1, 6-0, against Viroqua. Janowski and Berra also won their second-round match 6-4, 7-5, against West Salem. Janowski and Berra lost the championship match 6-0, 6-2,

to Assumption.

Libby Moldenhauer finished fourth in the No. 1 singles bracket. She defeated her first opponent 6-4, 1-6, 10-3. Moldenhauer then lost to top seed Kendall Sullivan of West Salem 6-0, 6-0. Moldenhauer lost the third-place match to Assumption's Ari Cavanaugh 6-1, 6-1.

In the No. 2 singles bracket, Zoe Rukavina also placed fourth. Rukavina won her first match 6-0, 6-2, against Mauston's Addyson Laridaen. Rukavina lost to Fiona Peus of West Salem 6-2, 6-4, in the second round. Rukavina lost the third-place match 6-2, 5-7, 10-3, to Harper Heuer of Assumption.

Lily Sullivan also finished fourth in the No. 3 singles bracket. She won her first match 6-1, 6-2, against Paisley Hawkins of Mauston. Sul-

livan lost the second-round match 4-6, 6-2, 10-4, to Emily Graham of West Salem. Sullivan then lost the third-place match 6-3, 7-5, to Lila Fisher of Assumption.

Logan Mann took fourth in the No. 4 singles bracket. Mann won her first-round match 1-6, 6-4, 13-11, against Bree Grant of Viroqua. Mann lost the second-round match 6-1, 6-0, against Madeline Schleppenbach of West Salem. Mann lost the third-place match 6-2, 6-3, to Lily Nelson of Assumption.

BRF's No. 1 doubles team of Morgan Kunder and Arynlei Christesen finished fourth in the bracket. Kunder and Christesen won the first-round match 6-2, 6-3, against Mauston. They lost the second-round match 5-7, 6-0, 10-3, to West Salem. Kunder and

Christesen lost the third-place match 6-4, 6-4, to Assumption.

The Tigers' No. 2 doubles team of Sienna Koebler and Lilah Ottum took fourth in their bracket. Koebler and Ottum won the first-round match 6-0, 6-0, against Mauston. Koebler and Ottum lost the second-round match 6-2, 6-3, against West Salem. Koebler and Ottum lost the third-place match 6-3, 7-6 (5), against Assumption.

BRF then lost to Eau Claire Regis 4-3 Thursday, Oct. 2.

Rukavina won the No. 2 singles match 5-7, 7-6 (3), 11-9.

Ottum and Koebler won the No. 2 doubles match 6-4, 6-1.

Janowski and Berra won the No. 3 doubles match 0-6, 6-2, 12-10.

Wildcats cross country nets good results at three meets

By Garrett Aleckson

The Blair-Taylor (BT) Wildcats cross country team hosted a meet Tuesday, Sept. 23.

BT's boys finished second as a team with 41 points.

Alex Sygula led the Wildcat boys with a time of 19:23. Landen Kidd followed him with a time of 21:40. Robbie Brandt ran for a time of 22:40. Caiden Lien ran 23:43. Wyatt Schrock ran for a time of 28:01.

BT's girls did not place as a team, as the Wildcats had three runners.

Jadreaan Borreson led the Wildcat girls by running for a time of 25:45. Kelsey Lien ran for a time of 26:45. Allie Jorgenson ran for a time of 30:37.

BT then traveled to a meet hosted by Melrose-Mindoro Monday, Sept. 29.

The Wildcat boys finished fifth as a team.

Sygula led the way by placing first overall individually with a time of 18:58.46. Kidd finished 14th with 21:48.75. Caiden Lien took 17th with 22:04.17. Harley Sweet finished 30th with

27:07.45. Brandt was 33rd with 28:29.07.

BT's girls did not place as a team.

Borreson led the way for the Wildcats, as she finished fourth overall with a time of 23:39.93. Kelsey Lien placed seventh with 24:27.36. Jorgenson took 17th with 31:16.37.

The Wildcats ended last week with a trip to Neillsville Thursday, Oct. 2, for a meet hosted by the Lincoln Hornets.

BT's boys finished fourth as a team.

Sygula led the BT boys by finishing second overall with a time of 18:08.75. Kidd placed 13th with 20:57.42. Caiden Lien took 21st with 22:16.28. Brandt came in 29th with 25:21.26. Schrock was 33rd with 26:50.48. Sweet took 36th with 28:35.93.

The Wildcat girls did not have enough runners to place as a team.

Borreson led the way by finishing 11th with a time of 23:37.66. Kelsey Lien placed 14th with 23:57.27.

Sports

Lincoln Hornets football shut out by Gilman

By Garrett Aleckson

The Lincoln Hornets football team traveled to take on the undefeated Gilman Pirates on Friday, Oct. 3.

Lincoln could not find the end zone, as the Hornets were held scoreless. Gilman came away with the 63-0 win.

The Hornets opened the game with the ball on their 27-yard line after the kickoff. Jay Stetzer dropped back to pass out of the shotgun formation. He avoided pressure and threw a lob pass to Sean Stetzer for a gain of eight yards.

An incomplete pass brought up third down. Jay Stetzer ran for a first down on a read-option play. Lincoln had an incomplete pass, then

had a run stopped for a loss of four yards. Gilman got pressure on third down and forced an incomplete pass. Lincoln had to punt the ball away.

Gilman took over on its 46-yard line. The Pirates ran for a gain of nine yards on first down. On second down, Gilman called another run play, running down to Lincoln's 27-yard line. The Pirates scored on a four-yard run for the first touchdown of the game. Gilman converted its two-point attempt to make the score 8-0 with 8:42 left in the first quarter.

Lincoln started its next drive on its 25-yard line. Jay Stetzer rushed for three yards on first down. An incomplete

pass made it so Lincoln faced third down with seven yards to go. Lincoln's pass was intercepted on the next play.

Gilman took over on Lincoln's 46-yard line. The Pirates completed a pass for 32 yards on first down. Two plays later, the Pirates scored on a 10-yard run. Gilman converted the two-point attempt to make the score 16-0.

The Hornets took over on their 24-yard line. On first down, Jay Stetzer ran for one yard. An incomplete pass brought up third down. On third down, Jay Stetzer had to run and gained five yards. The Hornets punted the ball away on fourth down.

Gilman returned the punt 58 yards for the touchdown.

The Pirates took a 22-0 lead with 5:01 remaining in the first quarter.

Lincoln's next drive started on its 25-yard line. Jay Stetzer completed a pass to Bryce Arnold for a gain of four yards. Then Levi Marek caught a 16-yard pass. Jay Stetzer completed a pass to Drew Stetzer. He was tackled, but a personal foul was called against Gilman.

The penalty moved Lincoln to Gilman's 35-yard line. Jay Stetzer completed a pass to Marek for a gain of seven yards. Lincoln's drive ended the next play, as a pass was intercepted.

Gilman was fortunate on its next drive. A Gilman receiver tipped a pass, but

the ball went right to another Gilman athlete. Gilman's receiver ran all the way down the field for the 79-yard touchdown reception. Gilman converted the two-point attempt to take a 30-0 lead with 3:42 left in the first quarter.

Lincoln could not move the ball much on the next drive. A pair of incomplete passes brought up third down. Then a sack and fumble set up fourth down with 21 yards to go.

Gilman blocked the punt and took over on Lincoln's 15-yard line. The Pirates scored two plays later on a two-yard run. Gilman made the extra point to make the score 37-0 with 3:00 to go

in the first quarter.

Gilman added another touchdown on a 57-yard run to give Gilman a 44-0 lead with 14 seconds left in the first quarter.

Lincoln went into half-time trailing 57-0. Gilman added another touchdown in the second half to make the final score 63-0.

Lincoln is 3-4 overall and 2-3 in the North Central-East. The Hornets are scheduled to host Cornell (0-7 overall, 0-5 in the North Central-East Conference) Friday, Oct. 10, to end the regular season.

Mustang cross country teams net top-three placements in two meets

By Garrett Aleckson

The Melrose-Mindoro (MM) Mustangs cross country team hosted a meet Monday, Sept. 29.

Both the Mustangs boys and girls teams placed second.

Sheila Johnson led the Mustang girls by finishing third overall with a time of 23:12.66. Calysta Bautch took 10th with 25:53.84. Grace Loecke placed 13th with 27:39.78. Mattison Foster was 14th with 27:40.40. Rosalynn Hughes took 22nd with 40:33.44.

The Mustang boys also had two runners finish in the top 10.

Caleb Arneson led the

team by placing fourth overall with a time of 19:28.69. Carter Wortman finished seventh with 20:29.98. Grayson Mulholland took 11th with 21:17.92. Dayton Wade was 20th with 22:45.98. Ryker Werner finished 21st with 22:47.18. Ilean Hangartner placed 23rd with 24:58.66. Tim Heineck took 35th with 28:37.02. Emmitt Weiker was 37th with 31:14.35.

MM ended the week by traveling to the Neillville Thursday, Oct. 2, for the Hornet Invite hosted by Lincoln.

The Mustang boys finished third as a team.

Arneson led the way by placing first overall with a

time of 18:04.80. Wortman took seventh with 19:33.34. Mulholland finished 17th with 21:28.22. Hangartner came in 22nd with 22:20.24. Werner was 24th with 22:22.20. Weiker took 37th with 31:38.69.

MM's girls also placed third as a team.

Johnson led the way for the Mustangs by finishing eighth with a time of 22:31.05. Bautch took 15th with 25:25.37. Foster came in 17th with 26:52.53. Loecke placed 19th with 27:20.86. Adriana Gautier was 25th with 30:20.17. Hughes took 31st with 39:42.93.

Hornets volleyball loses two conference matches

By Garrett Aleckson

The Lincoln Hornets volleyball team was back in action with two Dairyland Conference matches last week. Lincoln began the week by hosting Whitehall Tuesday, Sept. 30.

Lincoln lost to Whitehall 3-0.

Whitehall won the first set by a score of 25-22. Whitehall won the second set 25-22 and closed out the third set with a 25-12 win.

Jaida Clarke led the Hornets with five kills, two blocks, one ace, four digs and one assist. Isabelle Huber

had four kills, one ace, eight digs and one assist. Mikeala Wagner had five aces, two kills and 20 digs. Prudence DeHaven had two kills, two blocks and nine digs. Maddy Rauss had 11 digs and one assist. RaeAnn Ruzic had five digs and three assists.

Lincoln ended the week by hosting Independence/Gilmanton (IG) Thursday, Oct. 2.

IG netted the 25-20 win in the first set. IG also won the second set 25-23 to take a 2-0 lead.

The third set went down to the wire, but Lincoln won

26-24 to stay alive. Lincoln dominated in the fourth set with a 25-11 win to tie the match. IG left with a 15-9 win in the fifth set to defeat Lincoln 3-2.

Ruzic had 14 kills, four aces, 18 digs and 13 assists. Huber added nine kills, three aces, 13 assists and 23 digs. Clarke had eight kills and two blocks. Rauss had six kills, one ace, eight digs and two assists. Wagner had one kill, three aces, 45 digs and seven assists. DeHaven added four blocks.

Lincoln is 1-8 overall and 0-6 in the Dairyland Con-

Tigers swim takes fifth at Eau Claire Husky Invitational

By Garrett Aleckson

The Black River Falls (BRF) Tigers swim co-op with Blair-Taylor and Lincoln competed at the Eau Claire Husky Invitational Saturday, Sept. 27.

BRF placed fifth as a team.

Hannah Tubbs showcased speed in the 50-yard freestyle, defeating the next swimmer by just over one second. She finished first with a time of 25.12. The second-place swimmer's time was 26.18. Annika Cernohous placed 18th with 31.28. Gracie Parker took 21st with 31.48. Amelia Schrock placed 23rd

with 31.69.

Tubbs also took first in the 100-yard freestyle, earning her second medal of the invite. Tubbs' time was 54.51. Cernohous placed 16th with 1:09.61.

In the 200-yard medley relay, BRF's team of Greta Bakken, Parker, Lizzie Stevens and Tubbs finished sixth with a time of 2:11.57.

Stevens took 10th in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 2:49.50.

In the 100-yard butterfly, Stevens placed eighth with a time of 1:20.28.

BRF's 200-yard freestyle

relay team of Schrock, Bakken, Cernohous and Tubbs finished sixth with a time of 1:59.40.

In the 100-yard backstroke, Bakken placed fifth with a time of 1:11.89. Schrock was 14th with 1:23.58.

Parker placed 12th in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:31.56.

BRF's 400-yard freestyle relay team of Stevens, Schrock, Cernohous and Parker finished seventh with a time of 4:46.25.

Banner Journal news deadline is noon on Friday.

Saturday, October 11
or Rain Date Oct. 12

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of Jon Lien, Bill McNulty, Jr.
and Robert Kling

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A street dance (in the parking lot)



Edward DuBois/Clark County Press

Sept. 20, the Hatfield Fire Department held its annual street dance, hosted outside of its fire station. The weather made preparing the event touch-and-go, with both thunderstorm and rain showers moving through the area. Top, the street dance had both interior and exterior activities for those attending, with food and seating arranged inside and just outside the fire hall. Below left, behind the fire hall, there were bounce-houses available for kids, some supervised by their parents/guardians and members of the fire department. Below right, beside the bounce-houses and the Fire Safety Education Trailer was a kiddie-train for kids to hop into and go for a ride. Upper center left, Smokey and Sparky the Fire Dog met with adults and children alike, representing personifications of both indoors and outdoor fire safety. Upper center right, members of the Hatfield Fire Departments guided children through the Fire Safety Education Trailer on loan from Fort McCoy, teaching kids how to safely exit a dangerous fire situation, including seeking out authority figures afterward, such as a firefighter. Lower center left, members of the Loyal and Chili-Fremont fire departments were also in attendance to show support. Lower center right, the Hatfield Fire Department provided rides around town in one of their fire engines to the public. Bottom, the night's entertainment was courtesy of Shirts and Skins (pictured with all their shirts on). Bottom right, one of the songs Shirts and Skins played, Abba's "Dancing Queen," inspired multiple ladies to take the dance area and become "dancing queens," themselves.



ADRC OF JACKSON COUNTY • OCT 13 - OCT 17

SENIOR NUTRITION PROGRAM MENUS

All Sites Provide Bread & Butter, Milk or Coffee
RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL HOME-DELIVERED & STARRED (**) SITES.
CALL 715-284-3978

BLACK RIVER FALLS HOME-DELIVERED • MON-FRI
11am - 1pm • 715-284-1322

All meals come with bread w/margarine & 1% or skim milk

MON: Baked chicken, mashed potatoes, carrots, lime jello w/fruit

TUES: Goulash, fruit cup, apple juice, tapioca pudding

WED: Cheddarwurst, mashed potatoes, green beans, applesauce

THURS: Chicken pie, mashed potatoes, peas, mixed fruit cocktail

FRI: Cod, mashed potatoes, broccoli, pumpkin custard

TAYLOR GENERAL STORE & CAFÉ • MON-FRI
715-662-2225

MON: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, carrots, fruit

TUES: Pork roast, potato, cabbage, fruit

WED: BBQ chicken, cheesy potatoes, baked beans, fruit

THURS: Beef stew, potato, mixed veggie, fruit

FRI: Fish, potato, coleslaw, mixed fruit

MELROSE • CONGREGATE • MON-THURS
Site Location: L&M Café, 608-488-2611
Served 11am-1pm

All meals come with bread, butter, 1% milk, coffee or tea

MON: Broasted chicken, mashed potatoes, country blend veg., gelatin w/fruit

TUES: Spaghetti w/meat & tomato sauce, wax beans, fruit, garlic toast

WED: Brat, american fries, baked beans, fruit

THURS: Fish, au gratin potatoes, carrots, coleslaw, fruit

MERRILLAN • CONGREGATE • MON-FRI
Site Location: Merrillan Café, 715-333-9200
Served 11am-1pm

All meals come with bread & butter, 1% milk, coffee or tea

MON: Pork chop, parsley potatoes, beets, applesauce

TUES: Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, peas, jello

WED: Hamburger stroganoff over noodles, carrots, cake

THURS: Cook's choice, rhubarb crisp

FRI: Fish, potato, green beans, corn, fruit

MILLSTON • WED-THURS
Site Location: TK 400 Club, 715-284-0072 • Served 11am-1pm

All meals come with bread & butter, 1% milk, coffee or tea

WED: Open face pork sandwich, tater tots, carrots, fruit

THURS: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes w/gravy, corn, fruit





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715-284-4525
Riverside Auto, Black River Falls

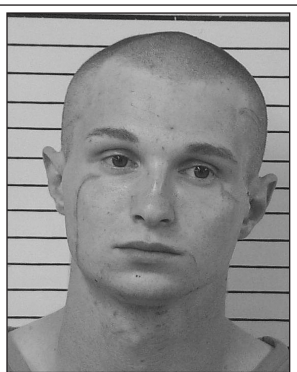


PROPERTY TRANSFERS

September 15, 2025
Harvey D. and Rebecca L. Baldwin to Mary E. and Fredrick K. Bolger - \$175,000
Daniel R. Black to Michael and Taylor Benson - \$405,000
Amanda R. and Joshua L. Rogstad to Christopher T. Rogstad - \$75,000
Isaac and Rebecca Wissestad to Jordan and Rebecca Gauf - \$295,000
Ray A. Buttke to Carden Equities, LLC. - \$400,000
September 16, 2025
Megan Jones to Matthew C. Rieck - \$315,000
Christy L. Roush to Corey D. and April L. Crivits - \$425,000
Estate of James S. Riden to Kimberly J. Rinden - \$157,750
September 18, 2025
NAFOR, INC., a Wisconsin non-stock corporation f/k/a Taylor Reload, INC., a Wisconsin corporation to Eric Lofgren - \$900
September 19, 2025
Xi Lin to Matthew S. and Trisha Carriaga - \$251,000
Richard L. and Evelyn J. Delaney to Delaneys Tree and Tires LLC., A Wisconsin Limited Liability Company - \$2,250,000
Wendy L. Humfeld to Taylor Nest, LLC. - \$100,000
September 22, 2025
Marilyn Moe to Jacee Hanson - \$150,000
Larry V. Anderson to Genuine Homes LLC. - \$345,000
Dawn M. Smart to Larry V. Anderson - \$172,500
September 23, 2025
Kirk E. and Michelle N. Lane to Kaitlyn M. Cunningham - \$552,000
Jennifer J. Johnson to Dustin D. Revis - \$175,000
September 24, 2025
Craig D. Johnson to Andrew and Jennifer Knefelkamp - \$650,000
Trustees of the J.K.M. Supplemental Trust Dated February 2023 to Tysac Holdings A., LLC. - \$45,000
KJH Properties, LLC. to Lester J. and Wendy D. Hall - \$416,000
Danyl Durman to Lee and Lindsey Bjerke - \$200,000
September 25, 2025
Pamela S. Sohlberg to Kevin Lavalley and Kristin Berg - \$24,100
Terry L. Woolever to Dawn and Dennis Wright - \$349,900
Steven G. Lamp to Anthony A. and Amber R. Lamp - \$150,000
September 26, 2025
Ralph Weikel to Logan J. Borek - \$150,000
Michael A. Jennings to Dale A. And Jeri A. Marsolek - \$210,000
John R. Frank, Sara Pfaff, And Linda Everson to Jordan M. Waughtal - \$234,000
September 29, 2025
James S. Dalton and Marilyn A. Dalton to the Lewis Family Property Trust - \$400,000
4M Investments LLC. to Tyson Bird - \$78,000
Arbadella A. Nandory to Nathan P. And Sara M. Nandory - \$10,000
Michael S. and Summer M. O’Neil to Adam M. and Emily E. Vieth - \$335,000

Release to locate a wanted person leads to an arrest

On Sept. 30 at approximately 4:53 p.m., the Jackson County (JC) Communications Center received a call from a citizen advising that Austin Z. Juracich, 23, was at a residence on McKenna Road in the Township of Knapp, Jackson County, Wisconsin, and he had a warrant for his arrest. Law enforcement confirmed that Juracich had active felony warrants issued by the JC Circuit Court and the Department of Corrections. Juracich was reported to be armed with a firearm at the time of the call and had allegedly made comments suggesting he would engage in a shootout with law enforcement rather than return to jail. Deputies responded to the location and attempted contact with Juracich to coordinate his peaceful surrender; however, those efforts were unsuccessful. Additional resources were deployed, including the JC Sheriff’s Office emergency response team (ERT), the Monroe County Sheriff’s Office tactical team, the Wisconsin State Patrol, Warrens First Responders and Tomah Area Ambulance. The residence and surrounding property were thoroughly searched, and other location



FOUND WANTED PERSON
Austin Z. Juracich, 23

strategies were used, but Juracich was not located. At approximately 12:18 a.m., after all attempts to locate Juracich had been exhausted, law enforcement and EMS teams were released from the scene. Deputies then conducted an area canvass to advise residents that Juracich remained at large and was reportedly armed. Austin Z. Juracich was taken into custody by the Juneau County Sheriff’s Office in their county at approximately 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 1. Juracich is now incarcerated in the Jackson County Jail. At this time, it is not reported to have led to any additional charges.

The Banner Journal is the local state-registered legal publication and it will continue providing local news coverage - just as it has done for the past 100-plus years.

JACKSON COUNTY COURT REPORT

Report Date Sept. 25
Suzanna J. Amo, 71, Black River Falls (BRF), had a charge of operating a vehicle without a park admission sticker dismissed.
John W. Buzzard, 47, BRF, had charges dismissed for drink open intoxicants in a motor vehicle by driver, operating while intoxicated (OWI) second offense, operating with a PAC and operating without valid license.
Darrell R. Campbell, 53, BRF, was fined \$389.50 each for two charges of criminal trespass to a dwelling.
Mark G. Kuberra, 68, Fairchild, had a charge dismissed for trespass to land.
Kenneth E. Pitts, 32, Hixton, was found guilty at trial and was fined \$326.50 for failure to yield to stop for emergency vehicle.
Benjamin L. Snowball, 25, BRF, was fined \$20.50 for operating without a valid license.
Report Date Oct. 2
Tyler J. Baum, 21, Hixton, was fined \$200.50 for operating a motor vehicle without insurance.
Brennen T. Boswell, 17, BRF, was fined \$200.50 for operating without a valid license.
Casper Farm Service, Alma Center, was find \$200.50 for violate class A Hwy weight limits.
George S. Cruz, 37, BRF, was fined \$175.30 for failure to stop at a stop sign.
Cheryl A. Drew, 51, BRF, was fined \$10 for a vehicle passenger failing to wear seat belt.
Joshua P. Emerich, 38, BRF, was fined \$200.50 for operating while suspended.
Timothy B. Ferdon, 30, BRF, was fined \$10 for vehicle operator failure to wear seat belt.
Brendan D. Gerber, 27, Humbird, was fined \$200.50 for operating a motor vehicle without insurance.
Veronica S. Heath, 46, BRF, was fined \$200.50 for operating a motor vehicle without insurance.
Ava A. Hizer, 17, BRF, was fined \$389.50 for possession of marijuana.
Issak M. Hoffman, 22, BRF, was fined \$200.50 for operating a motor vehicle without insurance.
Heather L. Holcomb, 39, BRF, was fined \$200.50 for speeding in 55 mph zone (16-19 mph).
Caden J. Iverson, 21, Hixton, was fined \$187.90 for inattentive driving and \$200.50 for automobile following too closely.
Kelly J. Johnson, 48, Alma Center, was fined \$169 for two charges of failure to meet dog license requirement.
Spencer T. Ketchum, 31, Alma Center, was fined \$169 for two charges of failure to meet dog license requirement.
Steven L. Krahn, 49, BRF, was fined \$10 for operating motor vehicle without proof of insurance.
Lexus L. Lambert, 27, BRF, was fined \$10 for vehicle operator failure to wear a seat belt.
Michaela K. Leffingwell, 41, Merrillan, was fined \$200.50 for operating a motor vehicle without insurance.
Peter N. Littlebird, 43, Alma Center, was fined \$181.50 for violation of park hours.
Scott S. Mahoney, 36, Alma Center, was fined \$169 for failure to meet dog license requirement.
Andrew W. Maniscalco, 29, BRF, was fined \$200.50 for operating a motor vehicle without insurance.
Paul J. Maniscalco, 58, BRF, was fined \$10 for operating a motor vehicle without proof of insurance.
Pedro Martinez, 39, BRF, was fined \$263.50 for retail theft.
Brendt E. Miller, 58, Taylor, was fined \$200.50 for failure to meet dog license requirement.
Stephanie L. Nottestad, 37, Hixton, was fined \$225.70 for speeding in 55 mph zone (20-24 mph).
Anaya M. Petersen, 28, Merrillan, was fined \$181.50 for violation of park hours.
Sasha C. Rave, 18, BRF, was fined \$1,062.50 for operating with a restricted controlled substance (first offense).
Terry S. Servant, 34, BRF, was fined \$200.50 for operating while suspended, \$175.30 for non-registration of vehicle – auto <10,000 lbs, and \$200.50 for operating a motor vehicle without insurance.
Yvonne M. Smith, 80, Merrillan, was fined \$263.50 for junked or abandoned vehicles prohibited.
April L. Sobczak, 39, BRF, was fined \$213.10 for failure to keep the vehicle under control and \$10 for the vehicle operator’s failure to wear a seatbelt.
Jerry W. Sweet, 59, BRF, was fined \$144.50 for stopping/standing on a crosswalk.
Jacob D. Truschka, 19, Hixton, was fined \$213.10 for failure to keep the vehicle under control.
Austin M. Ugo, 33, Melrose, had charges dismissed for exceeding speeding zone (20-24 mph), operating a motor vehicle without insurance and operating while suspended.
Roger L. Warren, 58, BRF, was fined \$175.30 for exceeding speeding zones etc. (11-15 mph).
Rena B. Whitecloud, 41, was fined \$389.50 for disorderly conduct – county/ municipality.

TOWN OF ADAMS
Monthly Meeting
Will be held on Tues., Oct. 14, 2025
at 7 p.m. in the town hall.
Agenda will include minutes of prior meeting(s), approval and payment of outstanding bills, and any zoning petitions which may be presented. Other items may be added to the agenda prior to the meeting.
Dale Ann Bohac, Clerk
WNAXLP

JACKSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Heather J. Anderson, 57, Wilbraham, MA, was arrested Sept. 24 for resisting and fleeing an officer.
Alexia G. Brown, 21, Black River Falls (BRF), was arrested Sept. 22 on a probation hold.
Francis E. Dougherty, 43, Merrillan, was arrested Sept. 25 for failure to appear.
Winnie M. Dubson, 21, Milwaukee, had charges of felony bail jumping and resisting or obstructing an officer referred to the Jackson County district attorney (JCDA) Sept. 22.
Contessa A. Fogel, 37, Calendonia, MN, was arrested Sept. 27 on a warrant.
Scott M. Gates, 60, BRF, was arrested Sept. 27 for disorderly conduct.
Starlene Grant, 36, Merrillan, was arrested Sept. 24 for probation hold.
Theodore L. Karlstedt, 52, BRF, was arrested Sept. 26 on a warrant.
Steven L. Krahn, 49, BRF, was arrested Sept. 24 on a warrant.
Peter N. Littlebird Jr., 43, Chetek, had charges of possession of meth, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of schedule I and II narcotic drugs referred to the JCDA Sept. 26.
Steven A. Martinez, 40, BRF, was arrested Sept. 28 on a warrant.
Robert A. Mellema, 36, BRF, was arrested Sept. 28 for disorderly conduct.
Deborah K. Pellmann, 70, BRF, was arrested Sept. 27 for battery and disorderly conduct.
Laurana L. Poindexter, 29, Fond Du Lac, was arrested Sept. 24 for probation hold.
Niki K. Rave, 42, BRF, had charges of theft under \$1,000 and possession of illegally obtained prescription referred to the JCDA Sept. 27.
Shyann M. Van Meter, 22, Taylor, was transported for a probation hold Sept. 25.
Jazmyn S. Wauters, 39, Fairchild, was arrested Sept. 28 for burglary, criminal damage to property, negligent operation of a firearm and disorderly conduct.
Jacob S. Wesson, 35, BRF, was arrested Sept. 24 for theft >\$2,500 <\$5,000 value.

Jackson in Action fall hike series

Celebrate the beauty of autumn with Jackson in Action’s Fall Hike Series, offering community members a chance to stay active while enjoying the season. There was a walk from Sept. 26 to Oct. 2, in which hikers could explore Wazee Lake, starting by taking a right at the entrance booth and following the signs.

The second part of the Legion Post 368 invites community to open house

The Taylor-Hixton American Legion Post 368 will host an Open House on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Legion Hall. Community members are invited to tour the newly renovated upstairs space, which features updated walls, lighting, flooring, and furnishings. The project was completed with the help of local contractors and Legion volunteers to modernize the hall to better serve veterans, members, and the public. All are welcome to stop in, see the improvements, and celebrate the new look of this historic building.

TOWN OF ALBION
REGULAR
MONTHLY MEETING
Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2025
at the Albion Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.
Regular monthly agenda will be followed.
Notice will be posted in regular posting places.
Joan Hanson, Clerk
WNAXLP

TOWN OF MILLSTON
Snowplowing Notice 2025-2026
The Town of Millston will be providing the service of snowplowing for the 2025-2026 season.
PRIVATE RESIDENTS - cost will be \$90.00/Season
BUSINESSES will be billed at the rate of \$100.00/Hr.- Minimum Charge 1/2 hour \$50.00
PLEASE SUBMIT CHECK PAYMENTS PAYABLE TO: “THE TOWN OF MILLSTON”
C/O SUE MARCOU, TREASURER
PO BOX 496, MILLSTON, WI 54643
PAYMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOV. 15, 2025
OR A \$25.00 LATE FEE WILL APPLY.
Snow clearing priority will be completed as established by the Town policy and emergency needs.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT,
JACKSON COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
Catherine Rose

Notice To Creditors
(Informal
Administration)
Case No. 25PR37
PLEASE TAKE NO-
TICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.

2. The decedent, with date of birth May 21, 1949, and date of death September 4, 2025, was domiciled in Jackson County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of PO Box 218, Taylor, WI 54659.

3. All interested persons waived notice.

4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is December 30, 2025.

5. A claim may be filed at the Jackson County Courthouse, 307 Main St, Black River Falls, Wisconsin, Room C207.

/s/ Elizabeth Storlie
Probate Registrar
September 16, 2025
Mark R. Franklin
PO Box 400
Independence, WI 54747
715-985-3091
Bar Number: 1006074

Published in the Banner Journal Sept. 24 and Oct. 1 and 8, 2025.

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
JACKSON COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
PHILIP EDWARD SEMKE
Notice Setting Time to
Hear Application
and Deadline for Filing
Claims
(Informal
Administration)
Case No. 25PR39
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. An application for informal administration was filed.

2. The decedent, with date of birth 12-30-1947, and date of death 09-09-2025, was domiciled in Jackson County, State of Wisconsin, with a mailing address of N4498 Lien Rd, Melrose, WI 54642.

3. The application will be heard at the Jackson County Courthouse, 307 Main St, Black River Falls, Wisconsin, Room C207, before Elizabeth Storlie, Probate Registrar, on October 30, 2025, at 9:00 AM. All parties to appear via Zoom.

https://wiccourts.zoom.us/j/8917692965?omn=87357316970
Meeting ID: 891 769 2965.

You do not need to appear unless you object. The application may be granted if there is no objection.

4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is January 2, 2026.

5. A claim may be filed at the Jackson County Courthouse, 307 Main St, Black River Falls, Wisconsin, Room C207.

6. This publication is notice to any persons whose names or address are unknown.

Sept. 23, 2025
Elizabeth E. Storlie
Probate Registrar
Attorney Mark A. Radcliffe
107 Main St.
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Telephone: 715-284-1234

Bar Number: 1033727
Published in the Banner Journal Oct. 1, 8 and 15, 2025.

WNAXLP

NOTICE OF
JUDICIAL SALE
Pursuant to Judgment dated March 12, 2025, entered in *United States of America v. Anna M. Riezinger-Von Reitz a/k/a Anna Maria Riezinger a/k/a Anna M. Belcher; and James C. Belcher* in the United States District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin, in Civil Action No. 3:24-cv-00831-wmc, the United States will offer to sell at public auction vacant land in Black River Falls, WI, and more particularly described as:

Lot 4 of Jackson County Certified Survey Map No. 1615, as recorded in the Officer of Register of Deeds for Jackson County, Wisconsin in Volume Seven of Surveys, page 184, Doc. No. 283086, and being a part of Government Lots 5 and 6, Section Eleven, Township Twenty-one North, Range Four West.

Date: November 6, 2025

Time: 11:00 am with registration starting at 10:30 am

Location of Sale: Jackson County Courthouse at 307 Main St, Black River Falls, WI 54615

Minimum Bid: \$115,000

Property may be inspected by drive by only.

The property will be offered for sale at public auction and sold to the highest bidder, under the terms and conditions of sale that are set forth below, foreclosing all of the right, title and interest of the defendants.

The successful bidder shall be required to deposit at the time of the sale with the IRS, Property Appraisal and Liquidation Specialist, 20% of the minimum bid (\$23,000) with the deposit to be made by money order, certified check, or cashier's check, payable to Clerk of the United States District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin, immediately upon the property being struck off and awarded to the highest and best bidder. Before being permitted to bid at the sale, bidders shall display to the IRS proof that they are able to comply with this requirement. No bids will be received from anyone who has not presented that proof.

The balance of the purchase price for the property shall be paid to the IRS, Property Appraisal and Liquidation Specialist, no later than December 8, 2025, by a money order, certified or cashier's check, payable to the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin. If the successful bidder fails to fulfill this requirement, the deposit shall be forfeited and shall be applied to cover the expenses of the sale, with any amount remaining to be applied to the federal tax liabilities of Reitz. The real property shall be again offered for sale under the terms and condi-

tions of the order of sale, or alternatively, sold to the second highest bidder if the second bid meets at least the minimum bid.

The sale of the property will confirm itself within thirty-five (35) days from the date of sale, unless someone objects to the sale. Upon the confirmation of the sale, the IRS shall execute and deliver a deed conveying the property to the purchaser. On confirmation of the sale, all interests in, liens against, or claims to, the Property that are held or asserted by any parties to this action are discharged and extinguished; the property will be sold without appraisal. The government reserves the right to reject any bids and to withdraw the property from sale. The sale shall be subject to building lines if established, all laws, ordinances, and governmental regulation (including building and zoning ordinances), affecting the premises, and easements and restrictions of record, if any.

The property is offered for sale "where is" and "as is" and without recourse against the United States of America. The United States makes no guaranty or warranty of condition of the property, or its fitness for any purpose. The United States will not consider any claim for allowance or adjustment or for the rescission of the sale based on failure of the property to comply with any expressed or implied representation.

The sale is ordered under 26 U.S.C. § 7403(c) and 28 U.S.C. §§ 2001, 2002 and 3201(f)(1), and is made without right of redemption.

Important Information

This is not an advertisement of a sale of seized property. This is an information notice only regarding a sale being conducted by the Internal Revenue Service as a result of a Judgment to collect unpaid federal taxes obtained by the Department of Justice.

Additional information can be found at www.irs-auctions.gov and/or by calling Shannon Williams, the Property Appraisal and Liquidation Specialist at (414)231-2279 or (414)530-3595.

Published in the Banner Journal Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2025.

WNAXLP

STATE OF WISCONSIN
CIRCUIT COURT
MARATHON COUNTY
HASTINGS MUTUAL
INSURANCE COMPANY
AS SUBROGEE OF
MICHELLE KAWLEW
Plaintiff,

vs.
HUNTER L WALTERMATE
REBECCA E CAMPBELL
Defendants
Case No. 25CV000449
AMENDED SUMMONS
THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
TO: REBECCA E CAMPBELL,
N7340 S SECHLERVILLE RD, HIXTON WI 54635
and
W9356 BAUER RD LOT 207, BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI 54615

You are hereby notified that the Plaintiff named above has filed

a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is also served on you, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within Forty (40) days after October 1, 2025, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the court, whose address is: CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT, MARATHON COUNTY, 500 FOREST ST, WAUSAU WI 54403-5568 and the Kohn Law Firm, Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 735 N. Water St., Suite 1300, Milwaukee, WI 53202. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If no Complaint accompanies this Summons you must respond within the said 40-day period with a written demand for a copy of the Complaint by mailing or delivering said written demand to the court and to the Plaintiff's attorneys at their respective addresses listed above.

If you do not provide a proper answer to the Complaint or provide a written demand for said complaint within the 40-day period, 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 be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin September 23, 2025.

KOHN LAW FIRM S.C.
ELECTRONICALLY
SIGNED BY:
/S/LISA L. KRITSKE
LISA L. KRITSKE
State Bar No. 1029155
Attorney for Plaintiff

Published in the Banner Journal Oct. 1, 8 and 15, 2025.

WNAXLP

Public Notice

Sealed bids will be received by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources at the Black River State Forest Headquarters (Castle Mound), W10325 Hwy 12, Black River Falls, Wisconsin 54615; up to 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 28, 2025. A timber sale prospectus, map, bid forms and detailed information on each timber tract can be obtained online at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/TimberSales/salesBlackRiver.html> or by contacting Forester Ian Remus 715-928-2462.

There are twelve tracts of timber for sale on the Black River State Forest in T20N-R2W, T21N-R2W, T22N-R3W. The tracts comprise 920 acres and contain an estimated 34,770 tons of pulpwood and sawtimber. These timber sales are third par-

ty certified.

Results from the bid opening and information on any unsold tracts can be obtained by checking our website or calling the number listed above. Tracts not sold on Tuesday, October 28, 2025 will be available for re-bid up to 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 11, 2025.

The Department of Natural Resources reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Bids will be opened at the Black River State Forest Headquarters (Castle Mound),

Black River Falls, at 9:00 a.m. on October 28, 2025 and November 11, 2025. Interested parties may join the bid opening in person or via conference call at: 1-608-571-2209. Once connected, use passcode 968114625#.

Proof of workers compensation, liability insurance, and logger certification will be required at contract signing.

Published in the Banner Journal Oct. 8 and 15, 2025.

WNAXLP

Annual Meeting & Budget Hearing for the
Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan School District
Will be held on Monday, October 20, 2025
At 6:00 PM

Junior/Senior High School Library

Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the School District of Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan, or the Villages of Alma Center, Merrillan, Towns of Alma, Cleveland, Garden Valley, Hixton, and Northfield of Jackson County; Town of Mentor of Clark County, that the Annual Meeting of said district, for the transaction of school business will be held in the Junior/Senior High School Library at the Lincoln Jr/Sr High School on the 3rd Monday, being the 20th day of October 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

The proposed 2025-2026 Budget can be reviewed in the District Office or online at www.lincolnhornets.org.

Dated this 8th day of October 2025.

Kara Paul
District Clerk

Published in the Banner Journal October 8 & 15, 2025.

WNAXLP

School District of Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan
2025 ANNUAL MEETING
Monday, October 20, 2025, 6:00 p.m.,
Lincoln High School Library
AGENDA

- Call to order – School Board President
- Introduction.
- Election of Chairperson.
- 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes.
- Auditor's Report
- Hearing on the 2025-2026 Proposed Budget.
- Resolutions: Request for Tax Levy
- Resolution: Request authorization for the School Board to sell or dispose of tangible personal property that the Board determines is no longer needed.
- Resolution: Request authorization for the School Board to furnish school lunches to pupils and to appropriate funds for that purpose.
- Fix the salaries of School Board members
- Authorize date and time of the 2026 Annual Meeting.
- Authorize the School Board to lease property from Immaculate Conception Church.
- Authorize the School Board to short term borrow for operational needs up to \$750,000.
- Authorize the School Board to purchase property, if it becomes available, for possible future additions.
- Adjourn

Published in the Banner Journal Oct. 8 and 15, 2025.

WNAXLP

ANNUAL MEETING and BUDGET HEARING

for the
MELROSE-MINDORO SCHOOL DISTRICT
will be held on

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Junior/Senior High School Cafeteria

Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the School District of Melrose-Mindoro, or the Village of Melrose, Towns of Melrose, North Bend, Franklin, and Irving of Jackson County; Towns of Farmington, Burns, Hamilton, and Onalaska of La Crosse County, and Town of Little Falls of Monroe County, Wisconsin, that the Annual Meeting of said district, for the transaction of school business will be held in the Junior/Senior High School Cafeteria at Melrose-Mindoro High School on the fourth (4th) Monday, being the 27th day of October 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

The proposed 2025-2026 Budget can be reviewed in District Office or online at www.mel-min.k12.wi.us.

Dated this 8th day of October 2025.

Emily Stanton

District Clerk

Published in the Banner Journal Oct. 8 and 15, 2025.

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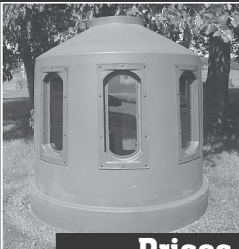
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BLACK RIVER FALLS- One bedroom income based apartment available now. For persons 62 or older and/or disabled. Includes water, sewer and garbage pickup. For an application, please call 1-800-218-2843. This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Equal Housing Opportunity.

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AMERICAN LEGION Post 200 meets the first Thursday of each month from February through December at 7pm.

GARAGE SALE

N4228 State Hwy 54, Black River Falls, WI 54615
Oct. 9, 10, 11 • 8:00-4:00

Lots of antiques, tons of fishing supplies, fishing poles, musky baits, net, tackle boxes, vintage snow shoes, tools, dishes, toys, kids clothes - size 9-10, some adult clothes, hunting stuff, Fred Bear recurve bow, gumball machines, small pet cage, beer glasses, two giant bikes, wood lathe, lots of misc. **DON'T MISS**

Garage Sales

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ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS Women's meeting, Saturdays, 12pm at the Bright Spot, BRF. Call 608-792-1950.

ANDREW BLACKHAWK American Legion Auxiliary Unit 129 meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 4:30pm at the American Legion Post 129 Building.

Automotive

2020 CHEVY Silverado custom 4x4 extended cab, remote start, box liner, box cover, 47,250 miles, \$34,750, 608-302-8922.

Help Wanted

AL-ANON MEETING: Sundays, 7pm at the Methodist Church basement, BRF. Call Priscilla 715-284-2260, Kim 715-284-2276.

Wanted Part-Time Bartenders

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The ideal candidate will provide strong leadership and supervision to staff, ensure compliance with state and federal laws, oversee budgets and program operations, and develop policies to support effective service delivery.

Qualifications:

- Associate's Degree in paralegal, supervisory management, or related field preferred.
- Minimum of seven (7) years' experience in Child Support Program operations.
- Supervisory or management experience strongly preferred.
- Strong leadership, communication, and organizational skills required.

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Hoffman Construction Company is currently seeking qualified individuals for the following opening:

Wash Bay Attendant/Mechanic Assistant

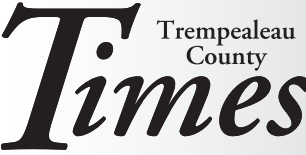
In this position you will be working in our Black River Falls shop preparing heavy equipment to be worked on. Your primary role will be washing the equipment to maintain a clean machine prior to the diagnostic process and the machine being fixed. Other duties will be assigned as necessary, including assisting the Shop Mechanics. This is a year-round position and an excellent entry level opportunity to gain experience in a Heavy Equipment Shop.

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Weekly update from the Jackson County highway report

The Jackson County Highway Department advises motorists in Jackson County that they should prepare for a continuing construction season as state and county crews take on a series of major highway and bridge projects this year.

Updates this week include repair work and temporarily closing the rest area off the westbound I-94.

The rest area southeast of Black River Falls (BRF) will be closed for approximately six hours. The safety rest area off westbound I-94 southeast of BRF at mile marker 121 is scheduled to be closed from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7, so repairs can be made to the truck parking system detection.

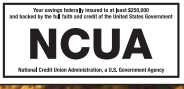
In the event of inclement weather, the closure will be moved to Wednesday, Oct. 8, through Oct. 9 and open on Friday, Oct. 10. The rest areas before and after the Black River Falls location, Mauston off westbound I-90/94 at mile marker 75 and Menomonie off westbound I-94 at mile marker 43, will remain open for travelers.

Construction is underway on CTHN between Highway 54 and Vinger Road as part of Jackson County's 2025 road improvement program. The project is designed to improve roadway safety and extend the lifespan of the pavement through a full resurfacing and rehabilitation effort.

Work includes pulverizing and relaying the existing pavement, placing new asphalt pavement, and replacing guardrails, pavement markings, and signage. The project began in April and is expected to be completed shortly. Currently, this area is being traffic-controlled and will be completed depending on the weather.

Meanwhile, from CTH C to Rabbit Run Road, construction will cover more than five miles, combining full pavement replacement with resurfacing. That project begins April 2 and runs through mid-October. This road is expected to open on Thursday, Oct. 9.

Farther west, STH 54 near Melrose is the site of two bridge replacements. The Wilson Creek bridge is fully closed, with traffic detoured along USH 53 and STH 93 to I-90 before reconnecting through WIS 16, STH 108 and STH 71. At Mill Creek, motorists will be able to cross using a temporary bypass controlled by traffic signals. Work at both sites, which began in late June, will continue through November and includes new pavement, guardrails and markings in addition to the bridge replacements.



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