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Farrow goes for Pokémon GO

County exec finds family, community, activity in mobile game

By Alex Nemec
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NASHOTAH — County Executive Paul Farrow and his wife Amy — to quote the Pokémon theme song — “want to be the very best, like no one ever was.”

How they do that, however, is a different story.

In July 2016, Pokémon GO launched on mobile phones and took the world by storm, bringing the popular Pokémon franchise to life.

Waukesha County has also become a hotspot for Pokémon GO players as there are hundreds of areas where players can go to catch Pokémon, also the name of the animated characters, around the county including Frame Park in Waukesha, Lapham Peak in Delafield and City Beach in Oconomowoc.

In fact, some of the events Pokémon GO offers rely on players working together as a community battling rare bosses.

Just days after launch, Paul and Amy's son Andrew had asked them if they had heard of the game — they hadn't.

After a little goading from Andrew, the Farrows had downloaded the game as a

way to bond with their kids. “With both of our kids growing up and moving out of the house soon, we thought it was a good way to reconnect with them,” Farrow said.

The game left a significant impression on the family while they were in Charleston, South Carolina for a vacation.

“Next to our hotel there was a park and there were literally hundreds of people walking around trying to catch Pokémon,” Farrow said. “We even saw people running up and down the park trying to hatch their eggs in the game.”

For those who don't know, Pokémon Go is a game based off a popular video game and cartoon called Pokémon. The point of the game is to “Catch ‘em all!” To do that, however, players need to walk to Pokéstops — where you get balls to catch Pokémon — and battle in gyms.

In addition, the game has Pokémon eggs, which hatch after the player has walked various distances of either 2km, 5km, 7km and 10km.

Training in the community

If you've been to Waukesha on a Wednesday evening around the Waukesha Public



Alex Nemec/Freeman Staff

Paul Farrow and his wife, Amy, stand near the large breed dog park sign at Nashotah Park to play Pokémon GO. The sign is a virtual Pokéstop used for trainers.

Library, the Veterans Memorial or even the Five Points, you may have seen a crowd of people walking around looking at their phones.

Well, more likely than not, they are all participating in something called “raid hour,” a special hour for trainers to catch rare Pokémon where the players need to battle as a group to catch

them.

The Farrows are often a part of that group downtown.

“It's a lot of fun,” Farrow said. “It's one of things where I've had a couple of people recognize me, but a lot of people they don't care, we are just there to have fun.”

“People mostly just care

whether we are Team Mystic, Team Valor or Team Instinct.”

The Farrows are a part of Team Instinct, he said.

Farrow said he has seen nothing but respect from people playing the game when he goes out into the

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Hessler earns respect on field

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Pewaukee artist finds comfort in his creations

*Makes
pieces of art
to help
others*

By Derek Grant
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PEWAUKEE — On Sept. 30, 2015 at 9:50 a.m. Gregory McDonald died. But that's not the end of his story. Although McDonald legally died, he received a second chance and was resuscitated. McDonald, who goes by Mac, has made the most of his second chance at life. "I never really started living until after I died," Mac said.

Mac has lived in Pewaukee for 22 years and describes the community as the perfect place for him. At his home, Mac has built quite the setup for his woodworking and stone-carving passions.

"I have more tools than God," Mac said.

His workshop is a sight to behold. Tools are laid out everywhere and have every kind of carving or cutting purpose that one can imagine. From brand new tools to tools that are over a hundred years old, Mac has it all.

Mac attributes his passion to his parents who created pieces of art with leather and metal. He was very close with them, he said. He wears a cross around his neck that holds his father's ashes.

Mac said his passion for art and his love for helping people has compelled him to donate many pieces he cre-



Derek Grant/Special to The Freeman

Gregory McDonald in front of his homemade grill explaining the story behind his "Be Mac" mud flap.



Derek Grant/Special to The Freeman

Gregory McDonald stands in front of the Pewaukee Police Department with Pewaukee Chief of Police Timothy Heier with the installed stone-cut police badge that McDonald made.

"I never really started living until after I died."

— Gregory "Mac" McDonald,
Pewaukee artist

I'm doing," Mac said. Mac said he is very involved with the people in his community and says he visits "elderly folks" to help make them laugh and also does their shopping and walks them home.

Mac said he like to helps people when they're down and his neighbors trust him with their homes and pets when they are away.

He says he offers to fix things and make things just because he feels it's the right thing to do.

"I look out for people and try to help them," Mac said.



Derek Grant/ Special to The Freeman

Gregory McDonald's front door that features wood carvings that he made in his workshop.



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Something to cluck about

Pewaukee approves keeping chickens after 9-year-old advocates for change

By Katherine Beck
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PEWAUKEE — Most kids want a puppy or kitten — maybe even a horse — for a pet, but not Lily Levenhagen, who wants fluffy chickens to call her own. But unfortunately for the 9-year-old, chickens weren't allowed in her community of Pewaukee — that is until she stood up in front of the Village Board and helped to change the rules for chicken lovers like herself.

It all started when Levenhagen's school, Horizon Elementary, had a Make a Change Fair. Levenhagen decided to make an argument for why chickens should be allowed in the village.

From there, a member of the school staff told Levenhagen and her mom, Stacy, how the village had previously voted against a request to allow chickens in village yards, and encouraged them to take the issue up again with elected officials.

Levenhagen decided to take her presentation board and a piece of persuasive writing she did about chickens for a nonfiction writing class to present to the Village Board.



Submitted photo
Lily Levenhagen celebrates after she learned chickens would be allowed to be kept as pets in Pewaukee.

“I learned that you can do anything. You can be anything you want to do. You can do anything if you set your mind to it.”

— Lily Levenhagen

“I think she spoke very clearly. She spoke with passion that she really wanted this and she was knowledgeable,” Village President Jeff Knutson said. “She did her homework. She had the nice chart, the good and the bad on chickens.”

Despite Levenhagen's presentation, it wasn't a done deal — just yet. The village had to create an ordinance with proper rules and once it was created, it had to be reviewed before the Village Board could approve it. Eventually the board approved the ordinance.

Knutson said the ordinance allows for chickens to be kept on a one-quarter acre lot or bigger. Residents who wish to keep chickens, must get prior approval from the village.

Stacy Levenhagen is proud of what her fourth-grader could do — and happy they live in a community that listens to even the youngest residents.

“It's so nice to see the community listen to her and take her seriously and be willing to improve the community for kids,” she said. “It was really a great experience all around

and encouraging to Lily, being a young lady, to be given the opportunity and forum to speak.”

Stacy Levenhagen said she hopes her family will be the first to get approval to have chickens at their Glacier Road home.

Knutson said people can start applying for their conditional use permit soon.

Lily Levenhagen said she went “crazy” when the village approved the allowance of chickens.

“I was so surprised. I never thought that would happen,” she said.

She also gained a new perspective.

“I learned that you can do anything. You can be anything you want to do. You can do anything if you set your mind to it,” Lily Levenhagen said.

When the time comes for Lily Levenhagen to get her chickens, she wants to get silky black ones — and possibly name one of them Domino.

A century of service

Town of Delafield Fire Department celebrates 100th anniversary

By Eileen Mozinski Schmidt
Special to Conley Media

TOWN OF DELAFIELD — On October 24, 1919, a gathering of 30 residents in the town met to discuss the need for fire department and rescue services.

The awareness of the need had been growing in recent years, as the area population had increased and due to the makeup of the community, according to a press release documenting the department's history.

“Because of the building construction materials used in that day and the widespread use of fire for heating and cooking, it was not uncommon for fires to occur in any type of building or dwelling,” the release stated.

So the residents at the meeting voted to form the Delafield Volunteer Fire Department, with John M. Peterson named the first chief engineer.

A few weeks later, the department placed an order to purchase a one-ton, 80-gallon, double-tank chemical car, which was stored in a garage owned by one of the department members, the statement said.

It was a humble beginning, said Town of Delafield Deputy Fire Chief Mark Hoppe, as the department took shape just after the national involvement in World War I.

In the years that followed, the department added equipment and volunteers to meet the needs of the community, growing with and continuing to serve the area up to the present day.

The department celebrated its 100th anniversary with a free event in September.

Hoppe said the acknowledgment of fire department mem-



bers is particularly important to department leaders and some retired members will be on hand for the celebration.

“The department can't be anything without the people. We have had a lot of good people serve over the years,” Hoppe said, noting that the roster includes 155 people just since the department started keeping electronic records in 1995.

Still, additional membership remains a need as the area population grows.

Asked about reports from neighboring fire departments about the difficulty of securing personnel in the current climate, Hoppe said staffing is a challenge in the town as well.

But Hoppe said that those who work in the department find it is rewarding in both helping the community and training for careers in the field. The department offers paid training and has had members serve for several years before landing jobs in area communities like Brookfield, Waukesha, Watertown, Sheboygan, among others, Hoppe said.

Wildlife in Need Center hosting dinner event

OCONOMOWOC — A fine wine and dine event will be held by the Wildlife in Need Center on Oct. 25 at 6 p.m. at the Westmoor Country Club.

The seventh annual event will feature a five-course Wisconsin-themed dinner that is paired with complimentary wines selected and prepared by the chef at the Westmoor Country Club. The event will go from

6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$115 for members and \$125 for nonmembers with all proceeds to support the WINC.

For more information about the event or to purchase tickets visit www.helpingwildlife.org/events/fwd or call 262-965-3090.

The Westmoor Country Club is at 400 S Moorland Road in Brookfield.

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-Jo Peterson - Oconomowoc

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symptoms associated with Multiple Sclerosis and Parkinson's Disease, strokes, insomnia, and slow-healing wounds.

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Farrow

From Page 1A

community to play.

“The majority of the people when we go out, are families or adults that are very respectful and not taking over things,” Farrow said. “I know there were issues that people were trashing the parks down in Milwaukee. I don't see that happening out here.”

Training together

On a brisk Tuesday fall evening, Paul and Amy bring their dogs Shaw and Schatzie to Nashotah Park to burn off some energy. Paul said with the amount of Pokéstops in the area, this is their go-to place to play.

Farrow said the app is beneficial to him and his wife because it helps them get out of the house and exercise.

“We both started playing it with our sons, but now we just go out and play ourselves at night and then in

the winter we drive around catching them,” he said.

Farrow said people wouldn't believe how many high-ranking people play the game, including his brother Peter who is a CEO of a company in northern Wisconsin.

“There are so many CEOs and people who I interact with who play,” Farrow said. “Everyone needs a hobby and this one is ours.”

Farrow recounted a time when he and Amy were walking around Frame Park when the game first came out and ran into then Carroll University President Doug Hastad.

“We ran into Doug and while we were talking to him, we kept looking down at our phones to look for the Pokémon,” Farrow said. “Eventually he asked us what we were doing and we told him and he just laughed.”

Paul — who loves using powerhouse Pokémon Snorlax, Slaking and Dragonite in game — and Amy

— who loves Steel-type Pokémon because “they make her feel fortified” — both share a love for the game.

How they play it is totally different story.

“See, I am pretty much creating a zoo,” Amy said. “I want to have one of each Pokémon and see them all in my inventory.”

Paul, on the other hand, builds his Pokémon team a little differently.

“I want to create an army. I just want the best ones in my game,” he said. “I have something like 200 or so Pokémon and she has like 500.”

Paul said he finds the franchise's flagship Pokémon, Pikachu, the most “irritating” in the game — he explained irritating wasn't the correct word he wanted to use, but was the closest to match his emotions toward it — because Pikachu has different hats to collect.

Amy, however, doesn't mind. “I love it! I have all the hats!” she said.

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Master builders

Pewaukee LEGO League students give back to community

By Ashley Haynes
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262-513-2681

PEWAUKEE — Members of Horizon Elementary School's FIRST LEGO League team, Future Shift, used their combination of problem-solving skills and creativity to help better their community on Sept. 21.

Future Shift helped build compost bins at the Pewaukee Public Library, in turn helping the master gardeners that utilize the space.

The refined three-bin system Future Shift used will enable the master gardeners to more efficiently compost weeds and plant clippings from the rain garden.

Future Shift was assisted by members of the Pewaukee High School robotics team, Paradigm Shift, FLL Jr.; team Hydro Farmers of Pewaukee Lake Elementary; their parents; Library Director Nan Champe; and the master gardeners.

FIRST LEGO League allows students ages 9-14 to research a real-world problem such as trash and recycling, food safety, and energy, and challenges them to develop a solution. As part of the competition, students must design, build and program a robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS, then compete on a table-top playing field.

The teams also develop research projects based on whatever the new real-world problem is for that school year.



Submitted photo
Pewaukee School District student Catherine Kucharski drills pilot holes with high school mentor Ben Ours.



Submitted photo
Parker Licari, left, fits fencing with master gardener Chuck Congo Sept. 21 at the Pewaukee Public Library.

Sleep in heavenly peace

New nonprofit builds beds for children in need

By Ashley Haynes
ahaynes@conley.net.com
262-513-2681

WAUKESHA — There's nothing like the comfort of one's own bed. A new nonprofit in the Waukesha County area is making sure that no child forgoes that universal comfort.

Through the newly established Waukesha County chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace Inc. (SHP), volunteers are hand-crafting beds for local children in need.

SHP was brought to the county thanks in large part to Co-President Larry Schroeder. He said the national average of kids in the U.S. who need a bed — as determined by the national level of the organization — is around 3%.

"While it may be somewhat less than that in Waukesha County, there remains a definite need, which we will have a better handle on as time goes by," Schroeder said.

The Waukesha County chapter of SHP was officially certified about a month ago by the national organization.

SHP member Bill Anderson explained that to help gain that certification, the group held their very first build day, during which they assembled five bunk beds, or 10 beds in total.

"We've been able to raise enough money to build a batch of beds and we build them

from scratch. We buy lumber and we have made jigs ... we've bought all kinds of power tools to get started," Anderson said.

Chapters such as the newly established one in Waukesha County rely on volunteers to come together once a month to build as many beds as they can fund.

Each chapter is self-funded and seeks out businesses, churches, organizations and individuals to sponsor their build days.

Schroeder explained the biggest challenge is funding because the demand is so high for beds.

According to a news release, SHP nationally receives over 2,000 applications for beds each month.

"We have to get the word out to people that they can apply to get a free bed for their kids," Anderson said.

SHP Waukesha County held its second build day Oct. 6. Future builds will take place at Oliver Construction Company in Oconomowoc, which is letting the organization use the indoor space during the colder winter months.

Applications for the beds can be found at www.shpbeds.org and donations can be sent directly to the local chapter.

Send checks to "Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Inc.-Waukesha Co." by mailing them to N62-W29400 Rybeck Road, Hartland, WI 53029.



Eileen Schmidt/Special to Conley Media
Sheryl Bopp, right, and Cheri Dudley, left, with their dogs at last month's Paws in the Park hosted by the Washington County Humane Society. Both agreed that many of today's pet owners would likely be willing to take time off work to care for a sick pet.

Hartland increases parking ticket prices by \$15

Conley Media

HARTLAND — The once \$10 forfeiture for a non-moving traffic violation in Hartland was raised to \$25.

Hartland spent the last two years looking for ways to make improvements to parking in the downtown area. While downtown has more than enough parking options, visitors typically take the path of least resistance.

In 2018, Village President Jeff Pfannerstill told a Freeman reporter that visitors prefer parking directly outside of a business rather than in one of six municipal parking lots, which are free and within walking distance of downtown. With so many trying to park outside of businesses, Hartland was faced with vehicles either taking up too

much space, or being too close together.

The village has since added 150 delineated parking stalls with white paint along East Capitol Drive, Cottonwood Avenue north of the railroad tracks and portions of North Avenue. The project cost approximately \$2,500.

Pfannerstill said the delineated parking stalls have improved parking in the downtown area. Moreover, the Village Board has been working with local businesses so they can educate their customers on the location of municipal lots, he added.

"I do believe the steps we are taking collectively as a Village Board, police department and working with the businesses in the downtown area, that we are seeing major improvement," Pfannerstill said.

Time for pets

Study finds pet owners willing to take time off to care for sick pets

By Eileen Mozinski Schmidt
Special to Conley Media

Pets are increasingly regarded as an integral part of their families and so Americans are willing to take time off, both paid and unpaid, to care for them, according to a new study by a pet supply company.

The study, recently published by Innovet Pet, was based on a survey of 3,800 people across the country.

The study found Wisconsinites would take up to five unpaid sick days, or about \$531.75 in lost income, to care for a pet that was ill. The figure is based upon the average per-capita income for the state.

At last month's Paws in the Park event presented by the Washington County Humane Society, participants generally supported the idea of taking time off of work to care for a sick pet.

Lynn Brandow of Wauwatosa said that to date she hadn't taken off to care for Bowie, a miniature Australian Shepherd, or her family's cat, but she would if needed.

Brandow said she would take the five days typical of Wisconsin pet owners if that was what the situation called for, although with her job that would mean unpaid time.

Still, she said it would seem feasible to her that employers offering paid sick time would be understanding about using that

"It's not the same as a sick child, but you know how pets have gained more importance in the family. It is not just a pet anymore, whereas I don't think they were viewed so significantly in the past."

— Lynn Brandow, Pet owner

want to take time off for sick pets.

Dudley works from home, but said in another work situation she would take time off to care for a pet in need.

Both Bopp and Dudley felt employers should consider sick time for pets as part of the family benefits offered.

Others said paid time off works well in accommodating the needs of their pets.

Diane Kowalchuk from West Bend said when her 9-year-old Schnauzer hurt his back, she used paid time off to leave early when needed.

"I like the PTO where I can take off whether it's for my kids or vacation or whatever," she said, adding that she believes taking time off for sick pets and treating them more as members of the family is increasingly common.

"I always felt that way about my pets, but I think it's becoming a more popular thing," Kowalchuk said.

Perhaps another indicator of the value of pets in today's households was the steady level of spending on them during the recent recession.

Annual expenditures on pets stayed between 0.9 and 1.1% of total household spending from 2007 to 2011, according to a report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The average household spent \$502 on pets in 2011, including food, supplies, medicine, general and veterinary services, the report said.



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Lifting voices in prayer



Submitted photos

CITY OF PEWAUKEE — Students at the Christian Education Leadership Academy took part in a “See You at the Pole” prayer service Sept. 25. Students from grades K4-8 shared prayers that they wrote themselves, as well as selected Bible verses. CELA students, parents, and staff all gathered around the flagpoles in prayer. Pictured: Colton Roach, first grade, reads while “Chapel Buddy” Amara Daub holds the microphone.



CELA's Chapel Choir, from left: Clarice Hohensee, Addy Meissner, Avery Fischer, Maya Lauterbach, Annalise Treffert, Jolie Tomasini and Maddie Mazur.

Monches community hosting open house of local artists

Studios open doors for public once a year

Local artists of Monches, a small community near Holy Hill, will host their holiday studio tour Dec. 6 to Dec. 8.

Monches long ago consisted of a general store, tavern and mill house and is now home to many artists and artisans of different trades. Once a year, these artists open their studios to the public to showcase their techniques and offer handmade gifts for the holidays. The general store (now Krauski's Art Glass Studio), the tavern Ox & Cats, and the Millhouse will all be featured on the tour, as well as many other craftsmen.

The studios on the tour will include Janet's Jewels custom handmade jewelry, with a video demonstration of the bead-making process and Krauski's Studio with raw glass and tools on display. Red Phoenix Horseshoeing workshop will provide live demonstrations of the forging and hammering process.

Also part of the tour is Cindy Rust Saia's studio where she makes torch cut metal work.



Submitted photos

Handmade items will be on display during a holiday studio tour Dec. 6 to Dec. 8 of the Monches area. Below: Red Phoenix Horseshoeing workshop will provide live demonstrations of the forging and hammering process during the holiday studio tour.

Follow the tour map to see these and visiting artists, including Rockway Pottery with hand-sculpted pottery items, Fat Turtle Confections of hand-crafted chocolates, Dots Hats featuring one-of-a-kind hats and headbands, Zannah's Creations of note cards and paper stars, Ann's Sweater Art, and Melissa Clement's Serene Scene Photography and more. Visit St. Teresa church on Dec. 7 for additional artists and a fundraising lunch.

Details and a map of all stops are available at www.monchesartisans.com.



Starry stonewort confirmed in three more lakes

Found in both Washington, Waukesha counties

Conley Media



Submitted photo

WAUKESHA — The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources recently confirmed the presence of starry stonewort in three more Waukesha County lakes.

In September, starry stonewort was discovered on Pewaukee Lake, Okauchee Lake and on the boat ramp of Upper and Lower Nemahbin Lake. The aquatic algae was first discovered in Wisconsin on Little Muskego Lake in 2014 before spreading to Big Muskego Lake in 2015.

The invasive species has also been found in Washington County lakes including Green, Pike, Silver and Little Cedar Lakes. Starry stonewort has been found in 20 different lakes and rivers across Wisconsin, according to the WDNR's website.

Starry stonewort is a bright and bushy macroalgae known for its ability to proliferate quickly and choke out native plant species, which are crucial to a lake's water quality and health. The invasive species is native to Eurasia, or from the west coast of Europe to Japan.

Starry stonewort was unintentionally introduced to the Great Lakes through ballast water discharged from a contaminated cargo ship, which is believed to have occurred along the St. Lawrence River in 1978, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' website.

The more recent starry stonewort discoveries in Waukesha County came after the WDNR's Aquatic Invasive Species snapshot

Starry stonewort, an invasive species, has been discovered on Pewaukee Lake, Okauchee Lake and on the boat ramp of Upper and Lower Nemahbin Lake, the DNR reported.

day, a program in August where trained volunteers inspect lakes around the state for invasive species.

On Pewaukee Lake, starry stonewort was found at the public access in Naga-Waukee County Park by a volunteer participating in Aquatic Invasive Species Snapshot Day. The same volunteer discovered the invasive species on Lower and Upper Nemahbin Lakes. A private consultant discovered starry stonewort on Okauchee Lake, said Cassie Taplin, AIS coordinator for Washington and Waukesha counties.

The invasive species is known to hitchhike on boats from lake to lake. With so many boaters in Lake Country, it's no surprise starry stonewort made its way to this part of Waukesha County, Taplin said.

“That northwestern part of the county has the highest traffic lakes,” Taplin said. “So, if another lake was to get infested, it wouldn't be a surprise in that part of the county.”

The good fight

The WDNR has tried a variety of methods to curtail the proliferation of starry stonewort, but has yet to find a way to effectively combat the aquatic algae.

Without an effective long-term method of fighting it, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers joined the battle against the invasive species.

In 2018, U.S. Army engineers began collecting starry stonewort samples from Pike Lake in Washington County, Taplin said. These engineers are researching chemical combinations that could be used to kill starry stonewort and will test their effectiveness on large buckets containing starry stonewort samples from Pike Lake, Taplin added.

Currently, the DNR has underwater cameras on Big Muskego and Pike Lakes to monitor starry stonewort proliferation. Next year, DNR biologists will use data retrieved from the Pike Lake tests to fight starry stonewort on the two lakes, Taplin said.

Typically, DNR lakes biologists try to eradicate starry stonewort by physically harvesting it or by chemical treatments with concentrated amounts of copper.

“In small quantities, copper is a nutrient,” Taplin said. “But in large quantities, it's toxic.”

In August 2017, the DNR, in coordination with the Little Muskego Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District, conducted an extended and deeper lake drawdown — which not only extended the time that water was drawn from Little Muskego Lake, but also the amount of water.

Biologists had hoped to significantly reduce the amount of starry stonewort by exposing its reproductive structures to freezing temperature during the winter. The drawdown rejuvenated much of the lake's native plant species, but to the surprise of lake biologists, the measure also increased the presence of starry stonewort by more than 50%, DNR Lakes Biologist Heidi Bunk previously told a Freeman reporter.

Town of Delafield deer plan ‘made some progress’

By Kelly Smith
Special to Conley Media

TOWN OF DELAFIELD — “We have finally made some progress.”

That is Town Chairman Ron Troy's assessment of a 15-month effort to develop a comprehensive plan to reduce the overpopulation of deer in the town.

The town's deer population in the town exceeds the 20 to 25 deer per square mile standard for a rural residential area on the fringe of a larger metropolitan area, according to Dianne Robinson, a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources wildlife biologist.

The township is an ideal habitat for deer with its heavily wooded rural residential areas in addition to a 1,000-acre state park and an closed juvenile detention center located in the midst of a heavily wooded area, according to Robinson.

The overpopulation of deer raises potential public health issues because of the

diseases deer can spread.

The overpopulation also results in the destruction of natural vegetation in public parks and wooded areas in addition to destruction of residential landscaping, according to state and local officials.

The Town Board began developing its deer population plan after meeting with Robinson in July of 2018.

According to the plan, the town will issue municipal hunting permits — so-called nuisance tags — approved by the DNR that will enable bowhunters to harvest more deer than usually permitted by state-imposed hunting limits.

The plan encourages local bowhunters to hunt antlerless deer in designated “hot spots” in the town where deer congregate, and hunting conditions are ideal.

During its Sept. 10 meeting, the board designated three potential “hot spots”. They include town-owned land surrounding the fire station at Hwy C, privately-

owned parcels near Cushing Park and Hwy 18, and private property near Lewis Avenue on the south shore of Pewaukee Lake.

Troy emphasized that bowhunters must have permission from property owners before hunting on privately-owned parcels and abide by all DNR regulations.

Reduced number of nuisance permits

However, Troy acknowledged to the board that the plan has suffered a temporary setback.

The DNR has decided it will issue during the next hunting season 25 of the nuisance permits to the town instead of the usual 50 permits.

The bow hunting season in Waukesha County is Sept. 15 through Jan. 31.

Troy said the DNR reduced the number of permits to the town because town officials had not complied with all DNR record-keeping regulations.

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Conley Media

Several people, including Milwaukee Street Traders owner Chaz Hastings, were cleaning out the coffee shop and loading vehicles with coffee supplies Sept. 23.

DELAFIELD

Milwaukee Street Traders closes — but not for long

New coffee shop to move in by 2020

Conley Media

DELAFIELD — Milwaukee Street Traders in Delafield closed late last month, but the building's storefront won't be vacant for long.

Beloit-based Blue Collar Coffee Co. will be opening a second coffee house in the 523 Milwaukee St. building by the end of the year, the company announced Sept. 23.

Owned and operated by Geronimo Hospitality Group, Blue Collar Coffee Co. in Delafield will offer handcrafted coffee drinks from beans roasted and sourced by Ruby Coffee Roasters, which is based in Nelsonville.

"We look forward to introducing the Blue Collar Coffee concept to local Delafield residents and travelers coming to the city," said Jeff Whiteman, chief operating officer for Geronimo Hospitality Group. "Blue Collar Coffee Co. is a natural fit for Delafield."

Blue Collar's menu includes espresso, teas, smoothies, baked goods, breakfast sandwiches and various lunch items including sandwiches and soups.

Blue Collar Coffee's Delafield location will mark Geronimo Hospitality Group's fifth property in the city. The company's other brands include The Delafield Hotel, I.d., be FITNESS and Bark River Crossfit, which will neighbor the new

coffee house, according to a press release.

Hendricks Commercial Properties is the sister company of Geronimo Hospitality Group. HCP also owns several properties in Delafield that were previously owned by local developer Bob Lang.

"The coffee house really complements the other Geronimo brands already in the market, and it will continue to enhance the downtown Delafield experience," Whiteman said.

Milwaukee Street Traders owner Chaz Hastings said he chose to close Milwaukee Street Traders because the opportunity presented itself, and the timing was right, he said.

"My family and I loved it for four years," Hastings said. "It was just with my kids getting older, my daughter who was running it is in nursing school. And you know, a place like this just takes full-time management."

Hastings said he'll now focus on his other businesses, which include Seaboard Bar and Grill in Pewaukee, Jerry's Old Town Inn and Von Rothenburg Bier Stube in Germantown and the Sussex Beer Garden.

"From my family, myself and my associates, we've loved our time here and it's been great, so, thank you to everybody that was our guest," Hastings said.

Lake Country Fire & Rescue moving to full-time staffing

Five-year plan reflects departments relying less on volunteers, part-timers

By Kelly Smith
Special to Conley Media

DELAFIELD — A five-year plan is being developed that will enable Lake Country Fire & Rescue to rely solely on full-time firefighters/medical technicians, gradually eliminating the need to depend on part-time and community-based volunteer emergency responders.

The plan is reflective of a growing trend across Waukesha County where smaller community and regional fire departments, which for decades relied on volunteers and part-timers, are relying more on full-time emergency responders.

A shortage of available part-time emergency responders has forced the local departments to compete harder, and pay more, to recruit the part-time firefighters and medical technicians.

LCFR Chief Matt Fennig told Conley Media that it is becoming more efficient and cost-effective for his department to rely more on full-time rather than part-time emergency responders.

However, the department will continue using part-timers and volunteers to augment the department's growing full-time staff, according to the chief.

Presently, the department has 12 full-time positions, 20 part-time responders, and eight community-based volunteers, who are paid based on the number of calls to which they respond.

The department is proposing in its 2020 budget to spend about \$42,000 to convert three part-time positions to three full-time positions.

The additional positions are being

paid for with money that is part of \$110,000 in excess revenues the department has accumulated, according to the chief.

The remaining \$78,000 of the excess revenues will be used to help the municipal owners of the department, the villages of Nashotah and Chenequa, and the city of Delafield absorb the additional payroll costs over the next five years, Fennig said.

The hiring plan will not impact the department's \$250,000 reserve fund, the chief said.

The department's governing board has approved a proposed budget of about \$2.2 million.

The department raises about \$986,700 in revenues from billing emergency medical calls and service contracts with area hospitals.

The three municipalities contribute another approximately \$1.2 million.

Each municipality must approve its share of the proposed budget, according to the 2010 agreement that created the department by consolidating the city of Delafield Fire Department with the Lake Country Fire Department that was serving Nashotah and Chenequa.

The municipalities contribute to the consolidated department based on each community's population, residential tax base and number of emergency calls.

The city of Delafield is expected to make the largest contribution in 2020 of about \$989,000, which represents about a \$25,000 increase from 2019, according to Marie Williams, city treasurer and finance officer.

Johnson champions role of business in community efforts

Wisconsin senator addresses local chamber members at luncheon

By Eileen Mozinski Schmidt
Special to Conley Media

CITY OF PEWAUKEE — Get involved.

That was the message from U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson at a Waukesha County and Pewaukee Government Update lunch meeting held Oct. 2 at Milwaukee Marriott West.

"At a certain point in time you have to get involved if you want this nation to be preserved," Johnson said to about 50 area business members, in a call for more citizen legislators and more participation in civic efforts and systems like schools.

He dubbed those in public service as "smart and patriotic," but said he believes there must be more voices with detailed knowledge of business within government and education circles.

The Wisconsin Republican senator spoke about the importance of encouraging the pursuit of the trades among students.

"It is just vital that businesses get engaged with the education system," Johnson said, adding that chamber members can help students understand all of their post-high school options, and decrying the nation's \$1.5 trillion in student loan debt as a result of too much pressure to obtain bachelor's degrees.

"We've been preaching to them for decades and decades, you have to get a four-year degree. That's fine, but not everybody has to have one," Johnson said. "We're really communicating there's a first- and second-class way to realize your potential."

"All work has value," he said.

In a question-and-answer session with the audience, Johnson covered issues of business taxes, health care, infrastructure funding, and the economy.

Johnson praised the efforts of the Trump administration to decrease business regulations.

"This is the most significant thing this administration has done," he said.

Johnson said one could "quibble in terms of (President Donald Trump's) strategy" regarding China and said he would rather have a "united world" addressing that country's trade practices, but his main concern is the need for free and fair trade between nations.

"What's unfortunate is that China doesn't follow the rules. They've stolen hundreds of billions of dollars of western intellectual property," said Johnson, who also urged the chamber members to push their representatives for the passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement.

"It's probably not a perfect deal but it's better to have a deal than not," Johnson said. "We can't conclude these trade deals quickly enough, from my standpoint."

The senator called for putting public pressure to



Eileen Schmidt/Special to Conley Media

U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., stops for a photo with Katie Michel, managing partner of the Brookfield-based business Orange Shoe Personal Fitness, at a Waukesha County and Pewaukee Government Update lunch meeting held Oct. 2 at Milwaukee Marriott West.

move USMCA forward. Johnson critiqued proposals by the Democratic presidential candidates — "I hope America won't buy it" — and said he believes reducing the federal government is the long-term solution to many of the nation's ills.

'Getting American people the truth'

Following the meeting, Johnson answered questions from The Freeman about the current presidential impeachment inquiry.

"I deem my role as getting American people the truth of what happened, or what didn't happen," he said.

U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi opened the inquiry of President Trump following the release of a whistleblower report contending that the president and his administration had pressured leaders of other countries to benefit the president's political interests, according to a transcript of the press conference on the speaker's website.

Discussed within the report is a July phone call between President Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. The call has been criticized by some as including a quid pro quo by the president, according to media reports.

Johnson said he can interpret the phone call transcript, saying that he had personally spoken with the president in late August before traveling to Ukraine and meeting with Zelensky, with no indication of pressure.

"So I can easily look at that

transcript and interpret what I think is true; President Trump is just trying to get the truth," said Johnson, saying he thinks that if the transcript stands alone in the investigation, it is "pretty thin gruel" as a basis for an impeachment inquiry.

Johnson and Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, and Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, joined forces on a letter calling for Inspector General of the Intelligence Community Michael Atkinson to investigate changes to the whistleblower procedures and requirements, according to a copy of the letter posted on Grassley's website.

Johnson told The Freeman he also wants the inspector general of the intelligence community to look into leaks out of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Grassley also posted a statement in favor of protecting the whistleblower's identity.

Asked by The Freeman whether he believes the whistleblower's identity should be made public, Johnson said, "not necessarily."

While the Wisconsin senator suspects the identity may become known as the investigation continues, he said he supports whistleblower protection but added that he believes "not all whistleblowers are equal."

"And you can take a look at this as potentially a real orchestrated attempt to give the Democrats another opportunity to push this impeachment," Johnson said.

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Judging antiques at a county fair

Last month I judged the antiques competition at the Walworth County Fair in Elkhorn. It was a two-day event with over — believe it or not — 1,100 items and an extremely attentive crowd. The judging criteria included authenticity, condition, rarity, historical significance, comparison to a standard and scope of local, regional, national and/or global interest. County fair judges never assign a value.

A small army of dedicated fair volunteers cataloged and numbered each item; no personal information was revealed. The team expedited a proven check-in method and synchronized the process like a Henry Ford assembly line.

Today’s column exhibits a small sample of division ribbon winners. It was a wonderful privilege to be immersed in rural history and to taste heavenly homemade lemon pie!

George Washington is always the winner

Silk souvenir bookmarks were products during the centennial celebration of America’s Independence. Woven on Jacquard looms at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition in 1876. Sentimental keepsakes have been discovered folded away in sewing tables, baskets and drawers of great-grandmothers’ iron seamstress (treadle sewing machine). A family member discovered this memorial ribbon in such a place and had it framed. Some antiques give up their secrets more readily than others. Visual clues on silk are naturally occurring split edges, shredding and uneven color fading. The interest in patriotic items continues to this day.

A pecking order

Roosters became a symbol of service way before the 20th century. High-



BARBARA EASH

Antiques Appraised

pitched, harsh crowing at the break of dawn was more reliable than clocks. Tin silhouettes tacked over the henhouse door were viewed as architectural novelties in rural communities. Many of these tin signs were made by a traveling tinsmith (tinnier) at a cost of 15 cents and supper. The yellow reflective paint on the arched feathers — a penny more. Most simple-cut rooster signs were eaten by rust then discarded, but today are favored by folk art collectors. Following the judging competition, the owners of this strutting rooster introduced themselves and gave permission to be featured. Steve and Darlene Pinnow are now fourth-generation farmers at Wisconsin Lamb Farms. As a small boy when visiting his grandparents’ farm, Steve pelted the 15-inch-by-15-inch sign with stones.

Stitching horse

In farm and city communities, highly skilled men would be sought out for the making and repair of leather goods, including harness and saddles. Workers would set facing the upright clamp-jaws that was controlled by a foot pedal. Assorted vise sizes were used for precision stretching and stitching. The proud owner of this antique entry attached the below family history to the bench. Good idea — write down your family history!

“Great, great grandpa immigrated from Prussia in the 1830’s. He settled in Waterford, Wisconsin working as a harness maker for 50 years. I salvaged this from the old



granary on the homestead.”

Submit an item for consideration

Do you have an item or collection of items that could be shared in a future newspaper column? Let

Barbara Eash hear about it!

To have your item or collection considered send the following information: up to three, sharp, well-lit photos of front & back of the item(s), measurements as well as any history or hearsay, length of ownership and your full name,

address and daytime phone number. Mail: Waukesha Antique Shop, ATTN Barbara Eash, 1427 E. Racine, Ave. Unit E-2, Waukesha, WI 53186 or email: beappraisals@gmail.com. If your item(s) are considered for a future column, we will contact you. No photos

can be returned and no purchase of items will occur.

(Barbara Eash is a member of the Certified Appraisers Guild of America, specializing in appraisals of antiques and collectibles and has extensive experience writing and speaking about antiques.)



Road plans part of Delafield development

Medical complex developers may improve Highway C, Indian Springs intersection

By Kelly Smith
Special to Conley Media

DELAFIELD — A much discussed and long-awaited road improvement project in Lake Country may be part of the development of a 27-acre medical complex proposed near the interchange of Highway C and Interstate 94.

The developers — MSI General and The Property Advisor — are suggesting the intersection of Indian Springs Drive and Genesee Street (Highway C), which would be the entrance to the proposed complex, be moved south about 500 feet and redesigned.

If the intersection is moved and improved, there is a possibility that a hill located another approximately 500 feet south may have to be lowered and other improvements made on Highway C, according to Waukesha County officials.

Dirk J. Debbink, CEO of MSI General, says his company is willing to pay for relocating and redesigning the intersection.

However, who pays for lowering the hill and the other improvements on Highway C is subject to negotiations between the county, the city and the developers, according to Debbink.

Waukesha County Pubic

Works Director Allison Bussler told Conley Media the county does not have the funds to pay for the project.

Debbink told Conley Media Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow and Norm Cummings, former county director of administration, suggested to him that perhaps the city would be willing to create a tax increment financing district to pay for the project.

Mayor Kent Attwell told Conley Media that no one has approached the city about created a TIF district.

The intersection is located immediately south of the eastbound interchange of Highway C and Interstate 94.

Highway C continues south from the interstate through the border of the city and Town of Delafield, pass Lapham Peak State Park, to Highway 18.

Indian Springs Drive continues east along the interstate through woodlands and residential neighborhoods before turning south and terminating at Sunset View Drive.

It is the only access to Highway C for residents living along Indian Springs Drive, Bahr Road, Lapham Peak Road, Brookside Court and Sunset View Drive.

For decades, plans for improving the intersection have been included in various proposals to develop about 30 to 40 acres of land near the interchange.

But those plans never came to fruition, partly because of well organized opposition by the neighbors.

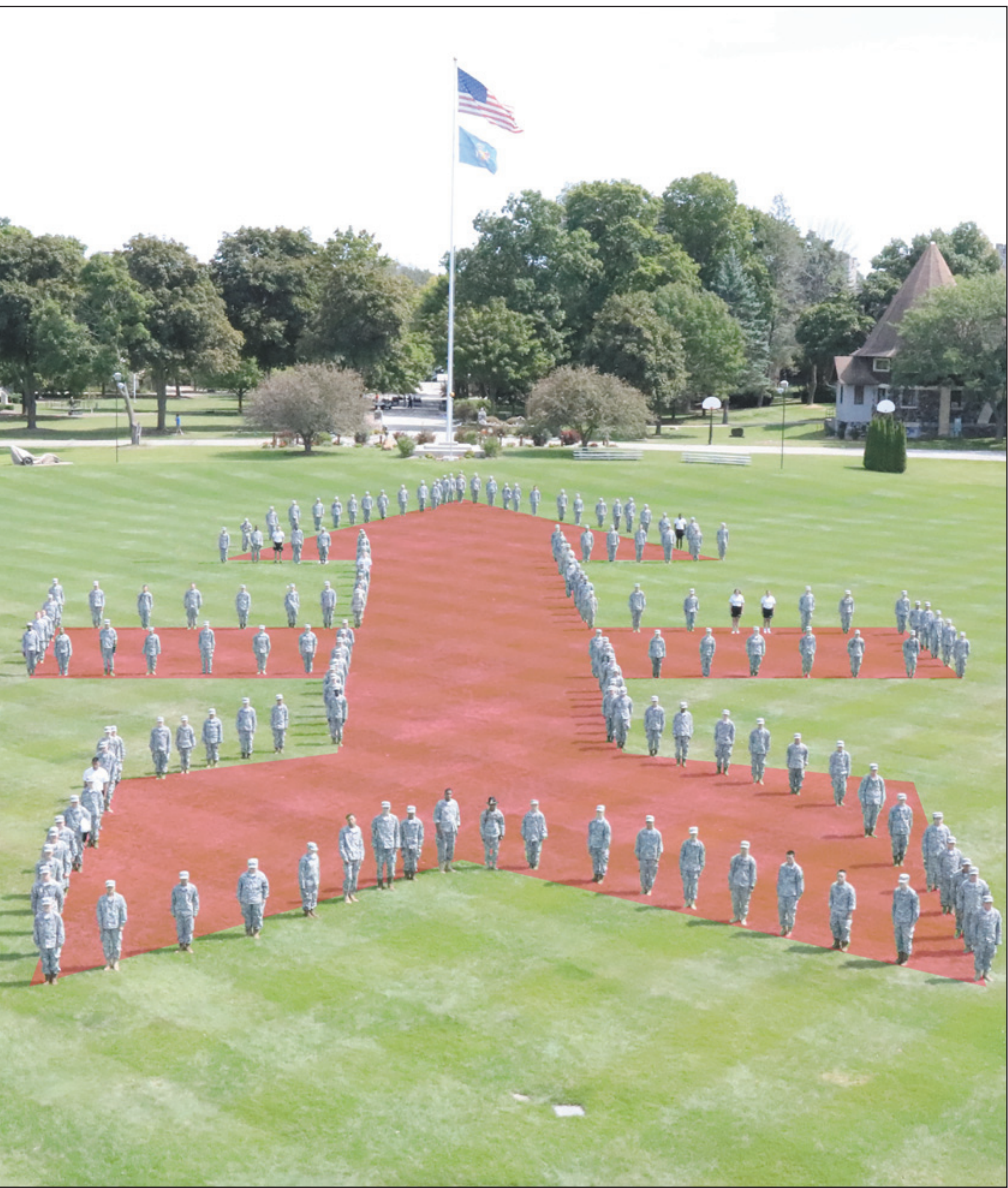
However, the latest development proposal for seven one- and two-story medical buildings in addition to a senior living center and a hotel appears to be gaining support among city officials and some neighbors.

The biggest obstacle for the development may be possible neighborhood opposition to the proposed hotel.

Because of the positive response the developers received during an Aug. 28 Plan Commission meeting, MSI General will hire engineers to begin studying alternatives for improving the intersection, according to Debbink.

The results of those studies will determine how to relocate and redesign the intersection and whether the hill needs to be removed and other improvements need to be made, he added.

Then the negotiations will begin about who pays for what improvements on Highway C and Indian Springs Drive.



Submitted photo

Honoring those who serve

DELAFIELD — St. John’s Northwestern Military Academy’s 136th Corps of Cadets took some time to recognize their Commandant of Cadets, CSM Eric David, who is currently deployed with 1st BN, 128th Infantry.

The entire Corps made up the famous Wisconsin National Guard “Red Arrow” on the parade field a few weeks ago.

David has worked at SJNMA since 2012. He started as a primary RFO, then became the Deputy Commandant in 2017 and was named Commandant of Cadets in 2018.

David and his wife, Lavina, have two children.

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Hessler earns respect at NW Missouri State

Junior named captain after injury-riddled last season

By Dave Radcliffe
dradcliffe@conley.net.com
262-513-2655

There are a multitude of reasons that support Andy Hessler being a well-respected figure in the Northwest Missouri State locker room. On the surface, the most obvious one is that the former Arrowhead football standout was voted team captain by his peers for this season.

“Whenever you’re named team captain, all the players vote on it, it’s an honor,” Hessler said. “But as a team as many people know, you need many people to be a leader. There’s six of us that are team captain; everybody needs to push each other, but it’s definitely an honor.”

It goes without saying that Hessler is highly regarded in the Bearcat circle. He’s technically one of just two junior captains on the team, and that’s coming off a redshirt junior campaign that was cut short by a shoulder injury in just the second game of the season — a medical redshirt is available for Hessler should he choose to use it.

“Right now I plan on using it,” Hessler said. “I’m starting my master’s this year, so I’ll finish out my master’s in 5 1/2 years, use that medical as long as I stay healthy this

year.” But after a few hiccups with his recovery, Hessler was cleared for action and had two tackles as a starting linebacker in 45-35 victor over Missouri Western in the season opener.

Through five games, Hessler has 15 total tackles and a sack.

“Everything’s on track,” Hessler said. “I’ve been feeling great throughout practice. I’ve gotten back into practice slowly contactwise, just being smart with it, but it feels amazing. I’m ready to get back after it. Injuries happen. It’s a violent sport. The game isn’t always nice to people, but it’s the way it is. I’ve got to rebound from it.”

Hessler, a starting linebacker and long snapper for the Bearcats, has done a great job turning a negative into a positive.

“The year off taught me how much I love this game, how appreciative I am to play it,” Hessler said. “It’s not always fun during, but it taught me a lot about myself. I am who I am because of this injury, so I wouldn’t change anything about what happened.”

It was surely difficult at first for Hessler considering the torrid start he had to his 2018 season. In less than two games of action, Hessler

rackup 16 total tackles, including seven for a loss, while also breaking up a pass.

“It’s always nice to see those results,” Hessler said. “Obviously it goes a lot deeper than me making a play. It’s about the defensive line doing their job up front, so a lot of kudos go to them, just the confidence level to come out and play at a very high level at a school like this is very rewarding. It gives me confidence coming back.

“A lot of it is being myself and doing what I do, be fast and physical on the field. That’s a lot of what we preach, go out and be fast and physical and have fun. After last year’s first two games feeling that sensation of being on a dominant defense like that gives me really good confidence.”

It was a steady climb to a full-time role for Hessler with Division II power Northwest Missouri State.

He redshirted his freshman year and watched from the stands as the Bearcats claimed their fifth NCAA Division II national championship. Then he got to be a part of one the following season, their third in four years.

Aside from being a three-year starter at linebacker for the Warhawks, Hessler also long snapped during high school and assumed that role

with the Bearcats. It was something he picked up from his father, who played at UW-Eau Claire, when he was growing up.

While he didn’t see much time defensively, Hessler still finished his freshman season with 32 tackles and a sack, culminating in a two-tackle performance in a 29-3 victory over North Alabama in the 2016 D-II title game.

“Being in the national championship was awesome; just that atmosphere down in Kansas City was crazy,” Hessler said. “It was just nuts being able to be a part of it and making plays on national television. It was pretty amazing. And that’s what everyone’s buying into when they come to Northwest Missouri State. You sign up here to be elite and win national championships. If players don’t want to do that, then you probably shouldn’t come here, and that’s what our coaches say right to your face. You come here to be elite, compete for national and conference championships.”

Hessler knows what it takes to be elite. He was part of two state championship-winning teams at Arrowhead in 2012 and 2013, all while earning all-state and all-conference accolades.

That still doesn’t compare to what he’s helped build at



Photos courtesy of Northwest Missouri State athletics

Northwest Missouri State linebacker Andy Hessler, an Arrowhead grad, was named one of six captains prior to the season starting.

NW Missouri State.

“I’ve ran on Camp Randall and won those two state championships, and that’s awesome,” Hessler said. “But when you’re competing against the whole country, teams are literally your brothers. You’re not with your family anymore. It’s an amazing feeling.”

Now Hessler hopes to bring the Bearcats back to national prominence.

The 6-foot, 225-pound linebacker got into the rotation as a sophomore and accumulated 12 tackles over

10 games, but saw his team’s season end after the first round of the playoffs. Then the injury happened last season, and the Bearcats only got one game further with Hessler sidelined.

Now pursuing his MBA after graduating with a double major in business management and marketing along with a minor in sports management this past spring, Hessler is ready to lay it all on the line to help Northwest Missouri State win its seventh national title in program history.

PREP BOYS GOLF

Hunt ending prep career for national tournaments

Arrowhead coach Budzien also steps down

By Dave Radcliffe
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TOWN OF MERTON — In the blink of an eye, a coach and a player that will go down as two Arrowhead all-time greats stepped away from the high school golf scene.

Piercen Hunt’s hand was forced, and that in turn sped up the retirement process for Greg Budzien.

With the PGA Tour Champions’ American Family Insurance Championship moving forward a weekend in 2020, that backed up the two-day WIAA state tournament at University Ridge Golf Course in Madison, creating a schedule conflict for Hunt, a senior at Arrowhead. Now being held on June 15 and 16, state would run into dates for the 103rd Western Junior Championship (June 15-18), a tournament Hunt won last summer.

Other factors went into the decision as well.

“The WIAA, I don’t blame them, but it’s limiting,” said Budzien, who took over as the varsity boys coach at Arrowhead in 2011. “A lot of other states let you play these things. In Wisconsin you can only play two sanctioned events outside of the WIAA. He’s going to play like five of them. I totally support him. It’s the right step for him to take and it’s not easy for him.”

Hunt, the first golfer to win WIAA state championships as a freshman and sophomore, finished sixth as a junior last spring. Then two weeks later, he won the Western Junior at Rich Harvest Farms in Sugar Grove, Ill.

The University of Illinois commit said defending that title was the biggest factor in his decision to end his prep career at Arrowhead. There were also other conflicts with AJGA invitationals that will take place during the high school season, and a loaded schedule heading into the summer before his freshman year of college wasn’t something Hunt believed was best for him.

“I didn’t look at it right away, but the more things started to pop up and how the spring might look like, I kind of realized there would be a lot of conflicts,” Hunt said. “The big problem was that the Western Junior was the same date as the state tournament, so my parents and I went through it. We don’t know the specific dates for a lot of the tournaments, but we know the general times they’ll fall, so with all those different conflicts, I just looked at it like it’s only going to be one or the other.

“Hopefully I’ll have no regrets about it, but with everything that’s happened, I just have to trust that I made the right decision.”

Playing in more national tournaments against stronger fields and building himself up before joining the Illinois men’s golf team was the route Hunt thinks will be best for



Freeman file photo

Arrowhead senior Piercen Hunt, who is a two-time state boys golf champion, has decided not to compete in prep golf this spring for the Warhawks to focus on national tournaments.

him.

“It’s a little bit more of a natural progression,” Hunt said. “Competing every day, I love it, but at the same time I’m preparing myself for my future, and this option allows us to do that.”

Even though his high school career will be cut short a year, it was a three-year run better than just about anyone has experienced — only two players have won three WIAA state championships. And it’s something Hunt said he will always look back on fondly.

“It was definitely special,” Hunt said. “There were a lot of great people I got to meet both on my team and other players that I got to play with. I made friends that will last a lifetime probably. Coach Bud is the most passionate guy about high school golf. I wouldn’t have wanted to play and represent for anyone else. He’s been a big part of it, too, just watching me develop from my freshman year to what I’ve become right now. He’s more than just a high school coach. We’re close family friends.

“All the experiences I’ve had, I’ll draw back on for a very long time. It’s where I started my foundation of what I’ve been able to do on a national scale. They’re extremely valuable to me.”

Hunt’s decision hastened Budzien’s, who said he would see the star golfer through his high school career before his came to an end. The 64-year old penned his letter of resignation on Aug. 4 and told his team after spending 17 years as the JV coach and 10 with the varsity squad.

“I expected it to be through this season, but I was true to my word,” Budzien said. “I just didn’t realize it would end after his junior year. Piercen has bigger fish to fry.

“Another key factor, I just turned 64 in August and now I’m getting this literature that says you’ve got to sign up for

Medicare in six months. My dad died of cancer at age 68. Suddenly that crosses my mind. You never know.

“One of the reasons someone becomes a golf coach is you probably like to golf yourself. In the spring I’d like to be golfing, but I’m coaching. I guess it’s kind of selfish, but I’d like to golf, too. So I’m turning 64, Piercen’s leaving, I did it for 10 years, we won three state championships. It’s like, you know? I think I’ll just kind of move in another direction. The stars are kind of aligning to say, hey, it’s a good time to go.”

Budzien’s infectious personality and golf acumen will surely be missed at Arrowhead, who last won a team state title in 2017 and also had two runner-up finishes during his tenure. But Budzien was insistent that the Warhawks will miss Hunt far more.

“They’ll find a replacement for me in a couple weeks. They won’t find a replacement for Piercen,” Budzien said.

Born in Calgary, Hunt briefly moved to Watertown before his dad’s business took him back to Canada for nearly a decade. His family then spent three years in the Netherlands, where Hunt said his passion for golf really took off.

“I made the decision golf was what I was going to pursue after my schooling was over,” Hunt said. “I loved every minute of it. Coming back here for my dad’s work, it’s been an experience I’ve always loved. Getting to play a national schedule against the best players in the U.S., it’s something I’ve really cherished.”

Hunt scored a 34 on the ACT and speaks three languages fluently — English, French and Dutch. In other words, Illinois will be getting a student-athlete in every sense of the word.

A driving factor in Hunt’s

decision to attend Illinois was men’s golf coach Mike Small, who has led the Fighting Illini to 11 straight Big Ten championships and the NCAA tournament 14 times since taking over in 2000.

Small played with Madison native Steve Stricker, who was instrumental in bringing the AmFam Championship to University Ridge, at Illinois.

“I tried to look ahead while I was on visits,” Hunt said. “I fell in love with the culture, the way coach Small thought about the game and the way he taught it, the way he handles his team, it was what made the most sense when I was imagining it for myself in

the coming years. The campus was fantastic, I love the feel. It’s similar to the feel in Wisconsin. The team atmosphere, you’re competing against players he feels are best for his program. Just the entire atmosphere, the tradition they’ve been carrying for a long time (were important factors).”

Before he heads to Champaign, Ill., Hunt will complete his senior year at Arrowhead. Meanwhile, Budzien can now pick and choose when he can head out to the golf course, whether it’s to get in 18 holes of his own or check on some of his former players.

His bond with Hunt is sure

to remain strong in the coming years, as well.

“Because we’re pretty close, (last) Monday we golfed together at (The Club at Lac La Belle) and we couldn’t have done that if he were playing for me,” Budzien said. “I’m going to miss my colleagues, my players and my parents. Arrowhead will find a successor worthy of the program and they’ll put their own mark on the program.”

They may ever see another player like Hunt again.

“In my humble opinion, and I’ve seen a lot of great players, I think he’s the best high school player Arrowhead has ever had,” Budzien said.

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