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Taking it day by day

County Exec. Farrow provides cancer update

By Karen Pilarski
kpilarski@conley.net.com

WAUKESHA — After recuperating from an invasive cancer-related surgery, Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow is back to work in a limited fashion. Recently he was allowed to be at work for an hour and a half per day per doctor's orders. "It is better than the Teams calls and trying to do all that stuff like we have been the last couple of weeks," Farrow said.

In September, Farrow announced he was diagnosed with mucinous adenocarcinoma, a rare type of cancer. His cancer is considered stage 4 and incurable, but the hope is to manage it.

In March he underwent CRS-HIPEC (cytoreductive surgery and hyperthermic intraperitoneal chemotherapy), which is a surgery that treats abdominal cancers that have spread to the lining of the abdomen.

The over 12-hour surgery went very well and the scan last week showed no sign of cancer in his abdominal cavity. This doesn't mean he is in remission.



Courtesy of The Office of Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow

On April 29, Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow (pictured, center) received the Tommy G. Thompson Distinguished Public Leadership Award. Cate Zeuske (right) and Alexander Tahk (left) are on both sides of Farrow. In September, Farrow announced he was diagnosed with mucinous adenocarcinoma, a rare type of cancer. His cancer is considered stage 4 and incurable, but the hope is to manage it.

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Pewaukee adopts cruising ordinance

Board makes enforcement until 11 p.m.

By Karen Pilarski
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PEWAUKEE — The Pewaukee Village Board on May 6 unanimously adopted an ordinance that prohibits cruising along part of Wisconsin Avenue near the Pewaukee Lake beachfront.

Village Attorney Matt Gralinski told the board that since the last meeting there have been revisions based on feedback from board members and the public. The revisions provided more specific terms of what cruising is and additional language that police officers can use and cite on scene when issuing citations.

Officers can look at certain factors to see if there is an intent to drive, not just multiple times past a location, but a way that constitutes unnecessary repetitive driving.

“So, trying to address those concerns, trying to find some middle ground that doesn’t withdraw too much discretion from the officers in the field,” he said.

Gralinski added if a citation is issued and an individual feels that they did not violate the ordinance, there is the opportunity to make a defense in municipal court to contest it.

The updated proposal defines repetitive driving. One of the descriptions includes a driver who attempts to gain the attention of other motorists or pedestrians or engages them in conversation, whether by hailing, arm waving, horn blowing, engine revving, or another action or device. “Cruising” doesn’t include traveling for a lawful purpose including, but not limited to, traveling to a specific destination by a person whose residence address is in the Designated Area or by a person whose business or employment requires driving in the Designated Area.

Resident Rebecca Wollenzien spoke during public comment and thanked the board for the



Cole Vandermause/Freeman Staff

A proposal to prohibit cruising the portion of Wisconsin Avenue that runs along the Pewaukee Lake beachfront was adopted during the May 6 Pewaukee Village Board meeting.

additions to the cruising ordinance.

“I’ve now started keeping track of how many times I traverse past the beach in that two-hour period going about my normal business. I do think I would have been in violation of it without the addition of the intent clause. I appreciate your additions to it,” Wollenzien said.

Trustee Jim Grabowski said after hearing people’s comments on social media he wondered if the ordinance was really necessary.

“In the 15 minutes of me walking down to the beach today with my dog, two cars went down the street revving their engines as

loud as they could until they redlined it. Then when I circled around back to our beautiful river, I could hear somebody spinning their tires on Main Street and right there it sold me. No, we’re going to need to do this,” he said.

Grabowski was concerned about the hours of 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. when the ordinance is enforceable. He pointed out that at 8 p.m. in the summertime it is not even dark and the beach is still full.

“I’d like to see that extended,” he said.

While out with his dog, Grabowski said he heard people from a restaurant patio yelling at

the people revving their engines.

“I thought OK, it is now a public safety thing because now there is going to be a confrontation. So, this is not a noise thing, it’s a public safety thing. It’s a community thing. I would like to see it extended to 11 p.m.,” Grabowski said.

The rationale was that by then most of the restaurants and patios are closed. There was discussion about amending the months to April as there is warmer weather in that month.

Gralinski said the ordinance could be amended further down the line if the board wanted to expand the months of enforcement.



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Farrow

From Page 1

“The other part of the surgery, they were able to remove a third of my intestines and the omentum, the layer around my abdomen cavity, that was sent off to pathology because that is where a lot of the cancer was,” he said.

The final diagnosis of Farrow’s type of cancer was Goblet cell adenocarcinomas, it is one of the most aggressive abdominal types of cancer.

“For me that means I will be doing these types of scans and blood workup about every three months. I have already started working with my oncologist, my surgeon so if it comes back or when it comes back, we will have a good attack plan in place and ready to go,” Farrow said.

If it comes back, the decision on the table is whether to continue chemotherapy or targeted immunotherapies that might be considered.

Despite the health challenges, Farrow remains committed to working on the 2026 budget and representing the county.

“If you ask my wife (Amy Farrow), the hardest thing was keeping me from working and actually rest,” he said.

His surgeon told him to wait 10-12 weeks post-surgery to go back to work. It has been over six weeks and Farrow is back in the office.

“In one hour in the office I can get so much done engaging with people,” he said.

Farrow’s goal is to be in the office two to three half-days per week by the end of May. As he regains his strength, Farrow hopes to be in the office for longer durations.

Farrow is finding other positive aspects to keep him moving which include a bundle of joy. He announced in winter that he is expecting his second grandchild in July. The Farrow couple already have a 2-year-old grandson. Due to weight restrictions from the surgery, he hasn’t been able to be around his grandson. They have kept in contact via FaceTime, and he looked forward to seeing him in person.

“My surgeon jokes I can start exercising now so I can lift the little one in July,” Farrow said.

For now, Farrow is keeping positive and working on what he can do. There was a ProHealth Care Cancer walk that he planned to participate in.

“Wherever I can interject my story and how people should be reaching out to others especially when they are diagnosed. Try not to do it alone. You need the strength of family and friends to get through this. That is what we continue to push,” he said.



Courtesy of The Office of Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow

Each year the bipartisan award recognizes Wisconsin leaders who have devoted themselves to public service, worked to promote responsible public policy and demonstrated exceptional leadership. Farrow received the award with environmental and conservation advocate Tia Nelson. Pictured from left to right: Scott Jensen, Jeff Neubauer, Tia Nelson, Tommy Thompson, Paul Farrow, Robin Vos, Cate Zeuske and Alexander Takh.

Farrow receives Tommy Thompson leadership award

WAUKESHA — Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow was presented with the Tommy G. Thompson Distinguished Public Leadership Award at the state Capitol building in Madison.

The bipartisan award recognizes Wisconsin leaders who are devoted to public service and work to promote responsible public policy, as well as

demonstrate exceptional leadership.

“It’s never been about me, but truly the people I serve with. It encompasses what public leadership is all about. We work for the people on tight budgets and that ability to work with people is what I dive into. It’s my passion, gives me purpose and fills me with excitement,” Farrow said.

Farrow received the award with environmental and conservation advocate Tia Nelson. Farrow has been county executive since 2015, previously serving in the state Assembly and state Senate. He followed in the footsteps of his mother, Margaret Farrow, who served as lieutenant governor.

“I know my mom would be proud. She epitomized what it

meant to be a public servant. I am fortunate and humbled to follow in her footsteps and continue her legacy,” Farrow added.

Previous winners include U.S. Representative David Obey, U.S. Representative Thomas Petri, Justice David Prosser and former Legislative Fiscal Bureau Director Bob Lang.

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Dr. Ashley Oppermann

Ashley was born and raised in Wisconsin. She acquired her Bachelor's degree from UW-Parkside in 2017. Prior to veterinary school, she worked at Hallett Veterinary Hospital as a veterinary assistant and continued to work here during veterinary school breaks. She obtained her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from UW Madison School of Veterinary Medicine in 2025.

In her free time, Ashley likes to horseback ride, read and spend time with her husband, daughter, and their 2 dogs (Kevin and Karl).

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Putting Arrowhead and Hartland on the ‘map’

Village of Hartland places sculpture in Nixon Park

By Karen Pilarski
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HARTLAND — A large sculpture with a big red heart and the words “LND” to mean “Hartland” now rests at Nixon Park in Hartland.

Village President Jeffrey Pfannerstill said the sculpture will help put Hartland on the map.

“We want it to be vibrant and fun. We want to continue to do things like this. Are people going to come from thousands of miles away to see it? Probably not. But there are people who are going to come from around the area who want to take their picture with it,” he said.

He added that the beauty of the project was that it was a joint effort.

Pfannerstill said it was a collaborative effort.

The Hartland Business Improvement District approached the students about doing a project and the students pitched the idea to the Village Board about two summers ago.

Arrowhead High School students (in the course, Warhawk Manufacturing) presented to the Village Board.

Hartland Business Improvement District paid \$7,300 to Warhawk Manufacturing at Arrowhead for this sculpture.

“We thought it was an outstanding idea and moved forward with it,” he said.

Pfannerstill said at that point the board wasn’t sure of the location. They wanted it to be located where people were safe to take pictures around it. It was put near the pond in the area where the beer garden is held at Nixon Park. The sculpture was kept in the Hartland Public Library for two months until the concrete was poured.

“It was a great team effort and turned out really great for Hartland. I’m happy the engineering students not only got to do the work and gain that knowledge, but also the ability to give back and think of Hartland. I thought it was really cool and really thoughtful,” he said.

Warhawk Manufacturing is a class offered at Arrowhead High School. The class is taught by Anthony Christian and Jeff Luetchwager. The class teaches skills in engineering, manufacturing and business. Seniors learn the ins and outs of running a business.

Christian said students came up with 20 different designs for the Hartland sculpture and it was narrowed down to the one that was created.



Cole Vandermause/Freeman Staff

The latest addition to Nixon Park in Hartland is a sculpture created and produced by Arrowhead students through Warhawk Manufacturing, a student-run business organization.

“The pendulum is swinging, and I don’t know if it is because of our course or program or the economy. What we are doing is giving them a robust experience where they have an opportunity to pick a path and be successful.”

— **Anthony Christian**
technology engineering and manufacturing instructor
Arrowhead High School

“The kids come up with great stuff. They had everything from Ice Age Trails to a nod to the history of Hartland. They had really cool ideas,” he said.

The Warhawks Manufacturing class designed, produced and put it together during the full school year.

“They did all the engineering. We had two of our best welding students work on it and assemble it. It was in the Hartland Hometown Parade celebration last year to unveil it,” Christian said.

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Hands-on learning experience

The course is a student-run business where Christian and Luetchwager act as CEOs. They “hire” students to do work for

to help them get their start in the field.

Christian said about 60% of students go into an engineering four-year college after graduation. He added 40% go into a two-year college or directly into the workforce.

This year it is the opposite where 60% of students are going to a two-year college or going directly into the workforce.

“The pendulum is swinging, and I don’t know if it is because of our course or program or the economy. What we are doing is giving them a robust experience where they have an opportunity to pick a path and be successful,” Christian said.

In the course, students learn about back planning such as creating timelines, deadlines, what materials are needed, what it will take to assemble and other details.

“It a good education. It’s the same stuff you do on the job,” Christian said.

Kyle Pierson was one of the students who worked on the Hartland sculpture.

“Warhawk Manufacturing is easily my favorite class throughout my high school. I learned a lot about bidding different jobs and how to design and create different projects for people’s needs. I am very proud of the work that I did on the Hartland structure. I think that the reason I appreciate it so much is because of all the practice Mr. Christian had me do and lead me to be a good welder. I am now a foreman for a billboard company, and I use welding in my job frequently,” Pierson said.

For more information visit <https://warhawkmanufacturing.com/>.

them. Students have a prerequisite to take an entry level engineering class like a woods or welding course. They have to have a skill to come into the course with.

“We don’t select one project, the clientele drives our products and what we create,” he said.

Each year there is a profit goal of a certain amount of money to be raised. This year the goal was \$50,000. There are different ways they raise money such as working with clients for school and community. They also have a website where items produced by students are for sale. A third of business is done through there. Students also work on custom projects for businesses partners. Businesses approach the class and students provide a solution.

Ninety percent of all profits will be split up at the end of the year and given to the students as scholarships. Students apply for the scholarship which can be used for tuition, tools, books and different things

Waukesha County leads state for most deer-vehicle crashes

By Karen Pilarski
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WAUKESHA — For the second consecutive year, Waukesha County is the number one Wisconsin county for the most crashes involving deer, according to a Wisconsin Department of Transportation news release.

“There were more than 17,000 crashes involving deer in Wisconsin in 2024. Preliminary data show nine people were killed and 708 were injured in those incidents,” the release said.

In 2023, there were more than 16,000 crashes involving deer in Wisconsin,

killing 14 people and injuring 585 people.

The top 10 Wisconsin counties for crashes involving deer in 2024:

- Waukesha – 937
- Washington – 798
- St. Croix – 791
- Dane – 770
- Sheboygan – 763
- Fond du Lac – 683
- Outagamie – 666
- Manitowoc – 645
- Walworth – 550
- Winnebago – 532

The Wisconsin State Patrol reminds drivers to keep an eye out for deer on roadways to avoid crashes.

“Deer can be erratic and hard to spot, so it’s important that drivers are looking ahead and paying close attention to the sides of the road,” said Wisconsin State Patrol Superintendent Tim Carnahan in the release.

Department of Natural Resources Deer Program Specialist Jeff Pritzl said the population in Waukesha County has been increasing steadily over the past decade.

“In a nutshell, there are two peaks in deer/vehicle accidents, and we are approaching the first one which occurs in June. This peak occurs because adult female deer are on the move feeding more often to support their pregnancy now, and their new fawns from Memorial Day on. They also stop tolerating last year’s fawns, so there are young deer off on their own for the first time in unfamiliar settings. This leads to an increase in deer strikes in June,” Pritzl said.

The big spike occurs in late October and November during the breeding season; again, because deer are on the move more often.

Avoid hitting a deer

Deer often freeze or change directions. Motorists should drive at a safe speed, eliminate distractions and make sure everyone is wearing a seat belt.

Scan the road ahead, if you see one deer make sure to watch for more. If a deer is spotted, honk the horn to make the deer move away from the road. If you are about to hit a deer, brake firmly and stay in your lane. Avoid swerving which could cause a loss of control over the vehicle.

Deer are most active during the early morning and evening hours. Be sure to use your headlights as daylight transitions to dusk and deer become more difficult to see, especially as daylight saving time ends in November.

“Motorcyclists are at a greater risk of injury in a crash involving a deer. Of the deer crashes in 2024, 221 involved a motorcycle, resulting in seven fatalities and 87 serious injuries,” the release said.

The WisDOT recommends if you cannot avoid hitting a deer with your motorcycle and there is enough space to swerve around it without leaving your lane, brake and adjust course as needed.

If you do strike a deer, get your vehicle safely off the road, if possible.

“If someone is hurt or the deer is in the active portion of the road, call 911. If no one is hurt and your vehicle and deer are off the road, contact local law enforcement. Stay buckled up inside your vehicle and wait for help. Getting out of your vehicle and walking along a road is always dangerous. Never attempt to move an injured deer,” the release said.



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