



Kewaskum STATESMAN

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Village Reduces Licensing Fees

By Anne Trautner

To help businesses that have been closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Kewaskum Village Board unanimously approved a motion to reduce the 2020-2021 "Class B" Combo Liquor and Tattoo License fees. The motion passed with a

contingency that the amount needed to be removed from the 2020 budget expenses.

The vote occurred at the Monday, May 4, Kewaskum Village Board meeting, which was held via video conference due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Village Reduces Fees Continued on Page 3

School Board Reorganizes

– Regular Board Meeting Rescheduled To May 19

By Anne Trautner

The Kewaskum School Board met on Monday, May 11, for the first time with the new members that were elected in April.

After a special meeting was held at 5:45 p.m. to elect officers, the board met at 6 p.m. for the regular monthly board meeting. However, the board voted 4-

3 to reschedule the meeting to Tuesday, May 19, at 6 p.m.

Because of the COVID-19 health emergency, the public was not able to attend the meetings in person, but could listen remotely via telephone through an audio conference.

School Board Continued on Page 5



Choir students from Kewaskum High School dressed as superheroes this past winter at Enchantment in the Park. Pictured are: (front row, from left) Melody Humphreys, Abigail Prim and Karissa Lange; and (back row) Autumn Rabe, Caitlin Bosselman, Charity Humphreys, Mason Legate, Carter Gaudynski, Annelise Frank, Molly Freund, Katie Last and Audra Hurt. The Enchantment in the Park organization donated \$10,000 to the Kewaskum Community Pantry on May 7.

photo submitted

Kewaskum Community Pantry Receives \$10,000 Donation

By Anne Trautner

The Kewaskum Community Pantry received a donation of \$10,000 from Enchantment in the Park, a holiday lights show presented during the winter at Regner Park in West Bend.

"Wow!" exclaimed Luke Piwoni, vice president of the Kewaskum Community Pantry. "Besides do-

nations for the Kewaskum Community Pantry building, this has to be the largest single donation we received. The generosity is tremendous and will ensure that we can keep providing assistance to local families in need during this difficult time. This is truly a reflection of the support this wonderful community continues to show for each other."

Enchantment in the Park was founded by the Rotary Clubs in Washington County in 2009. The month-long event collects food for area food pantries as well as money for a host of nonprofit organizations in Washington County.

Community Pantry Continued on Page 5



Wendi Dreher, owner of Hair on Main beauty salon in Kewaskum, talks with Rep. Timothy Ramthun on a video about the "Safer At Home" order.

photo submitted

Business Owners Share Their Views On Shutdown

– Rep. Timothy Ramthun Visits Local Businesses

By Anne Trautner

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, a number of businesses have been shut down across the country since March. Locally, the businesses that have been deemed "nonessential" by Gov. Tony Evers are feeling the effects.

Wisconsin State Rep. Timothy Ramthun visited six local businesses on April 29 to

hear about their experiences with the shutdown. To document the perspectives told by the business owners, Ramthun's conversations with the business owners were video recorded.

"It is widely known that as a result of the current public health emergency, many small businesses have been closed or seen their revenue significantly reduced. The Safer at

Home order has placed tremendous financial strain on families across Wisconsin. To avoid these people becoming nameless statistics, I wanted to share with you the struggles of a few business owners within the 59th District. These people are our friends and neighbors," Ramthun said.

Business Owners Continued on Page 9

- A FIVE STAR AGENT IN CLIENT SATISFACTION IN MILWAUKEE MAGAZINE SINCE 2011



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Publisher's Letter

A Matter of Perspective

Dear Reader,

We've been quarantined for weeks now, and a definitive end is not yet in sight. Some of us have spouses, live-ins, children, and grandchildren all trying to make the best of it every day with the ordinary life we once knew on hiatus. As an adult, it's difficult to let go of the stresses that come with responsibility. And, with our traditional routines waylaid and the certainties we once had in question, it is easy to fall into a tiresome and stress-induced loop of waiting.

When many of life's extracurricular activities with friends and family have been canceled, it's hard not to feel like you're in a state of liminality, an in-between period without access to the usual forms of entertainment, socializing, or release. The anticipations and excitements that used to be in place

may feel gone, and the once awaited weekend may now seem like another segment of days within a month.

But, if you consider this time divorced from the ingrained structure of adult life and liberated from the self-induced pressures that come with it, a whole new world can be awakened — one of enthusiasm, creativity, expression, and excitement, one in which to celebrate the inner you that has taken a backseat to the pressures of daily life.

You can have very little and still have the world. It's what you make of it. My six-year old grandson has been having the imaginary adventures of his life with a simple cardboard box. Sometimes, the simpler pursuits in life provide true meaning and value. It's all about perspective.

Patrick Wood
Publisher



Gov. Evers Announces Another Turn Of The Dial For Wisconsin Businesses

Gov. Tony Evers announced another turn of the dial on Safer at Home to add even more opportunities for Wisconsin businesses to get back to work in a safe and responsible way.

Emergency Order #36, signed on Monday, May 11, by Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) secretary-designee Andrea Palm, allows all stand-alone or strip-mall based retail stores to offer in-person shopping for up to five customers at a time while maintaining required social distancing practices. Additionally, the Emergency Order signed on Monday, May 11, allows drive-in theaters to operate with some restrictions. All businesses must continue to follow

all safety precautions and guidelines as outlined in the Safer at Home order.

"In addition to added flexibilities and steps we have already taken for businesses, this is another disciplined turn of the dial that will allow Wisconsin's business owners to safely get back to work and Wisconsin consumers to support their favorite local spots," said Gov. Evers. "Both customers and workers need to be confident in their safety, so we need everyone to be diligent in following best safety practices so we can continue to move our state forward while keeping our neighbors, families, and communities safe and healthy."

The order builds upon

the Safer at Home order and the last turn of the dial through Emergency Order #34, which together allowed golf courses to operate, aesthetic and optional lawn and construction services provided by a single employee, curbside pick-up for public libraries, and every business to provide deliveries, mailings, and curbside pick-up and drop-off services.

Emergency Order #36 is available at https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/WI_GOV/2020/05/11/file_attachments/1447953/EM_036-SAHDIATurn2.pdf and goes into effect immediately. If you have questions regarding Emergency Order #36, please review the frequently asked questions document available at https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/WI_GOV/2020/05/11/file_attachments/1447956/2020-05-11%20Safer%20at%20Home%20FAQ%20FINAL.pdf.

Homicide Case Scheduled For May 29

By Anne Trautner

Marie Bourget, a 50-year-old Town of Kewaskum woman, appeared in custody in a Washington County courtroom by video conference on Friday, May 1. She is charged with first degree intentional homicide with the use of dangerous weapon in the death of her 43-year-old husband, Benjamin J. Brich. If convicted, she faces life imprisonment.

The criminal complaint that was filed on March 26 alleges that Bourget

intentionally caused the death of Brich. She is accused of cutting Brich's throat and stabbing him three times.

Because of health precautions taken for the COVID-19 pandemic, Bourget appeared before Circuit Court Judge Todd Martens by video conference. Her attorneys, Wilfred P. de Junco and Timothy Drewa, appeared by telephone. Assistant District Attorney Stephanie Hanson appeared on behalf of the State in the courtroom.

An amended complaint was filed with the court since the case was last heard in the courtroom on March 27. The charge remains the same; the amended complaint simply changes the spelling of the victim's name.

The defense has received reports that the attorneys would like to review and discuss with Bourget, according to de Junco.

Bourget is scheduled to appear on May 29 for a position on a preliminary hearing.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Possible Child Enticement

The Washington County Sheriff's Office is seeking the public's assistance with a possible attempted child enticement incident that occurred in the Village of Richfield on May 8 around 4 p.m. The incident was reported to authorities shortly after 4 p.m. on Friday, May 8.

The attempted child enticement occurred near the intersection of Whispering Ridge Drive and Scenic Drive in the Village of Richfield. A 14-year-old girl was walking home alone after hanging out with a friend for several hours in the subdivision's common area. The victim was walking west on Whispering Ridge Drive when she was approached from behind by a male who said, "Come with me."

The victim refused and the suspect repeated it in a louder

voice. At this time the victim screamed and took off running to the closest house which happened to be a friend's house. The suspect chased her for a short distance before turning around. The victim last saw the suspect jogging down Whispering Ridge Drive toward Scenic Drive.

The Sheriff's Office had requested the public's assistance in locating a brown van that had been seen in the neighborhood several days prior to the incident. On Sunday, May 10, the Sheriff's Office received a tip from a citizen who saw the van in question in the City of Hartford. As a result, the Sheriff's Office was able to locate and identify the owner. The owner of the van is cooperating fully with the investigation and is not believed to be involved in the attempted child enticement. The Sheriff's Office would like to

thank the public for their response and want to reiterate that we are no longer looking for the brown van that we had released surveillance footage of.

The Sheriff's Office is still actively looking for the suspect. The suspect vehicle is possibly an older model full-size or larger boxy style minivan, brown/tan van that was observed parked facing south on Scenic Drive prior to the incident. The suspect is described as a white male with pale skin, who is average height and slightly overweight, wearing long tan shorts and brown crocs. He also had what the victim described as a raspy voice.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the Washington County Sheriff's Office at (262) 335-4378 or send an email to tim.kemps@co.washington.wi.us.

Kewaskum Statesman

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SHERIFF'S REPORT

Structure Fire, Town of Wilson

On Friday, May 8, at 2:33 a.m. the Sheboygan County Emergency Communication Center received a 911 call reporting a barn fire at 4122 County Road EE, in the Town of Wilson. The cause of the fire is still under investigation. The structure was a total loss.

The following re-

sources were involved in this incident: Sheboygan County Sheriff's Office, Town of Wilson Fire Department, Sheboygan Falls Fire Department, Oostburg Fire Department, Town of Sheboygan Falls Fire Department, Kohler Fire Department, Town of Sheboygan Fire Department and the Sheboygan County Fire Investigation Team.

Week's Wit

Nowadays some people expect the door of opportunity to be opened with an electric eye.

continued from front

Village Reduces Licensing Fees

The reduction in fees drops the village's revenue by \$2,330, according to Village Administrator Matt Heiser. Of that total, \$2,100 comes from dropping the Class B taverns beer and liquor license from \$400 down to the state minimum of \$50. Waiving the licenses for the two tattoo shops in the village results in a loss of the remaining \$230, according to Heiser.

To make up for the loss in revenue, the board agreed to delay the opening of the swim pond at Kiwanis Park until at least June 15. The swim pond currently runs about \$5,400 to operate, according to Heiser.

July 3 Fireworks

The board did not know yet on May 4 whether the governor's "Safer At Home" order would be lifted by July 3 and whether it would be possible to hold a large gathering in the village for the annual Independence Day celebration on July 3, with a rain date of July 4.

Fire chief Mark Groeschel reported that he talked with the fireworks company and was told that he could order fireworks, and if the event had to be postponed until later this year or next year, the company will hold the fireworks for the village. Groeschel noted that the fireworks for the village's 125th anniversary celebration, which have been ordered and paid for, are being held for next year's 126th anniversary celebration.

Because of the full credit policy, the board instructed Groeschel to order the fireworks.

"I want the fireworks to go ahead, and if it means that we have to light them off and socially distance from our house, I'm willing to have that scenario. And if it means that the fire department has to sell burgers through a drive-through stand either at the fire department or River Hill Park so people can get their burgers by car, I think we should go for it," Village President Kevin Scheunemann said.

Scheunemann said from his perspective the question for the board is whether it allows River Hill Park to be open that night.

"I think we need to have at least some semblance that we have something going on during the summer, so I am inclined to keep the fireworks on," Scheunemann said.

"If a lot of other municipalities are canceling their fireworks, do you think we are going to get a lot more people coming to Kewaskum just to see fireworks? I would like to get Chief Bishop's opinion on if his force can handle a town full of people that can't sit in the park and just have to sit around on the streets. How are you going to get from one end of town to the other if something happens? Even for the rescue squad," Village Trustee Richard Laubach said.

"I would say that is a fair concern to have. It is probably not a good idea to have the park open, I don't even think by July 3, which is two months away, we will be allowed to have 8,000 people gathered in one spot at one time quite yet," Police Chief Tom Bishop said. "We are going to have a lot of parking issues, street issues, littering issues that we have to think about."

Other Summer Events

Because of the COVID-19 safety guidelines, numerous events have been canceled for the summer. The Village Board on May 4 discussed the status of numerous events that had been scheduled for this summer.

One event that is set to occur is a kayaking event that will be held on the Milwaukee River on June 27. Peggy Kober of the Mighty River Project has been working with the Riveredge Nature Center to plan the event, Heiser reported.

Athletic programs in the village are undecided yet, according to Heiser.

"The athletics for the summer are kind of waiting and hanging in limbo to see what happens with the order," Heiser said at the May 4 meeting.

The Music In The Park music series that is traditionally held on Tuesday evenings at River Hill Park was originally supposed to start June 23, but that may change.

"Their contracts with some of the bands require a 30-day notice, so they are probably going to be making decisions at least with the first few concerts, that week of May 18, unless the village decides to cancel them," Heiser said.

"I think we should leave that up to the organizers of the event to see if they can properly heed the guidelines to socially distance the park," Scheunemann said. "I would like to see Music In The Park go ahead."

The village-wide rummage sale that the Kewaskum Statesman sponsors in May each year has been tentatively rescheduled to August 14 and 15, Heiser reported.

Delinquent Utility Accounts

Clerk/Deputy Treasurer Tammy Butz gave a report on delinquent utility accounts at the May 4 board meeting.

"Last week, 173 delinquent utility notices were mailed out to residents. In addition, another 32 were sent to property owners or their managers," Butz said at the meeting.

As of April 30, the total of standing balance was just over \$51,000, according to Butz. The notice that was sent was modified to reflect the consumer protection due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The emergency orders restrict assessing late fees and disconnecting customers' accounts for the duration of the emergency, Butz explained. As of May 4, the emergency order extended until May 26.

"We also sent payment agreement forms along with that notice," Butz said.

Village Work

Kewaskum DPW Working Foreman Dennis Aupperle reported on May 4 that the sewer main on Brooklane Drive has been installed. Work is being done on the water main. In addition, the sewer main on Clinton Street east and west of Brooklane Drive has been televised.

Tree trimming was completed in Kiwanis Park and Wildlife Park around the edges for mowing. Also, three large trees were pulled out of the creek at Wildlife Park and

cleaned up, according to Aupperle.

The village should be receiving a \$5,000 check for last year's tree grant, which will be used for tree removal and to plant trees throughout the village parks, according to Aupperle.

Village Hall Boiler

"I know we are kind of one leg into this process of exploring either renovating or replacing the municipal building, but this spring we have had some problems with our furnace," Heiser said.

It is a hot water furnace, so water is heated

by a boiler and is pumped throughout the building. There are two pumps, a lead pump and a backup pump.

Heiser told the board on May 4 that the lead pump stopped working and a new one has been ordered. The cost will be around \$2,000 plus labor to install, according to Heiser. It should take about three weeks to repair.

"And the backup pump is making a lot of noise," Heiser added.

Other Village Matters

In other action at the May 4 meeting, the Vil-

lage Board:

- Approved 2020 seasonal employment compensation.

- Approved the Kewaskum Police Department switching its record management system vendor to Pro Phoenix from TIPPS

- Approved suspending the sidewalk inspection program for one year for those who have expressed a financial hardship this year due to the COVID-19 emergency.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I am writing to wake up our American politicians. I may not have studied politics or held an office, but I was a member of our American workforce for over 50 years. So to my American politicians, please reconsider this extra \$600 that the federal government is giving out in unemployment.

This plan is not well thought out for the following reasons:

1. People will linger on unemployment as long as it is jacked up, and the end date for the \$600 boost is scheduled to be late July. Why would someone regain employ-

ment if they were making more money sitting home?

2. Although an extra boost may help certain families, long term that money will hurt our federal budget and cripple our American businesses, which the burden will be passed down upon.

3. Our essential workers caring for our elderly or washing out bedpans in our Covid-19 wards are earning less than someone on maximum unemployment. We are presently paying our "working heroes" about \$10 less per hour than the laid-off, unemployed and non-essential workers.

Even with the Covid 19 shutdowns, there

are still help wanted ads out there offering jobs. Let Americans do what our grandparents did in the early 1900s and what we did in the recessions of the later 1900s, work extra jobs!

Stop handing out freebees as today's workers already struggle with the understanding of a "hard days work." Increasing the need of enhanced work ethic instead of giving more handouts, is what will long-term strengthen both our economy and country. Stop the \$600 boost to unemployment.

Thank you for reading,
Curt T. Horbas
Kewaskum, WI

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continued from front

Kewaskum Community Pantry Receives \$10,000 Donation

"We have had a lot of visitors; we have had a lot of donations. And we thought a great thing to do at this time is to give some of that money to the food pantries," Mike Phillips, president of Enchantment in the Park, said about last week's donation for the area food pantries.

In total, the Enchantment in the Park organization donated \$50,000 to the food pantries of Washington County on Thursday, May 7. The Full Shelf Pantry in West Bend received \$30,000, the Slinger and Germantown food pantries each received \$5,000 and the Kewaskum Community Pantry received \$10,000.

"The Kewaskum Community Pantry is very grateful for the recent donation of \$10,000 from Enchantment in the Park. This money will be used to provide dairy, meat, fresh breads and produce to our clients for quite some time," said Aaron Laatsch, president of the Kewaskum Community Pantry.

The timing of the donation is especially helpful.

"Since the outbreak of COVID-19, our pantry has made some changes to the way we help our clients. We have been providing curbside pickup so our clients do not have to leave their vehicles. With rising unemployment in our area, we have also seen an increase, not just in the amount of clients we help, but the amount of help they need. Some of our families that were struggling to make ends meet on one or two incomes now are either down an income or unemployed during the Stay At Home order," Laatsch said.

"The Kewaskum Community Pantry would like to thank the West Bend Rotary and

everyone who has made a donation to our pantry. The generosity of our residents and support we have received from volunteers has been amazing," Laatsch added.

Enchantment in the Park has grown into a bigger event than organizers ever imagined, according to Phillips, who has been involved with Enchantment in the Park since the day it started.

"When we started in 2009, we were viewing this as something we would have to keep pouring money into in order to put this show on every year, and it has turned out that so many people love it. They have given us so many donations, and now we are able to actually give a significant amount of money back each year. So it is fantastic," Phillips said.

"It's a bigger success than we thought it was going to be," agreed Jeff Potts, former president and current secretary/treasurer of Enchantment in the Park. "We keep adding on every year and trying to do new things to improve it. The scope of visitors we get is amazing. We easily have 50,000 people come through each year."

Different organizations are able to participate at Enchantment in the Park and use the venue as fundraiser for themselves.

For example, the Kewaskum Tribe youth basketball organization has raised funds by helping set up lights for the event.

At Enchantment in the Park, beautiful holiday lights are displayed for about a month. People are able to visit with Santa Claus, and senior citizen treats and hot cocoa are available every night. There is lots of entertainment, with different musical groups

performing each night.

There are even special themes offered on different days. For example, the West Bend Theatre Company provided different princesses for "Princess Night."

"We had a limo get the princesses," said Bob Johnson, vice president of Enchantment in the Park. "The kids were mobbing the princesses as they walked from the limo to us. It was so darn funny."

This past winter, choir students from Kewaskum High School dressed up as different superheroes for Super Hero Night.

"They are a wonderful group of kids," Johnson said. "The director [Andrew Dahlberg] and the kids are fantastic. They all broke out in a musical while they were here. It was so darn cute."

Youngsters who came to Enchantment in the Park saw the Kewaskum students and went to their favorite superheroes.

"The high schoolers are such good kids with the little people who come up. I hurt my face smiling all night long," Johnson said.

For anyone who has never been to Enchantment in the Park, Johnson said it is something they do not want to miss.

"It is a great thing to see," Johnson said. "Plus it's a good fundraiser and a fun thing for everybody to get involved in."

Organizers are especially grateful for the support that Enchantment in the Park receives from the entire community.

"Thank you very much for all of our visitors who come," Phillips said.

For more information about Enchantment in the Park, visit www.enchantmentpark.org.



Aaron Laatsch, president of the Kewaskum Community Pantry, is pictured with Kewaskum resident Lori Yahr, executive director of Enchantment in the Park, as the Enchantment in the Park organization donates \$50,000 to area food pantries on Thursday, May 7. The Kewaskum Community Pantry received a \$10,000 donation.

photo by Anne Trautner

continued from front

School Board Reorganizes

— Regular Board Meeting Rescheduled To May 19

At the special board meeting, the board elected Jim Leister to be the new school board president with a 4-3 ballot vote, with Sue Miller receiving three votes. Miller had nominated outgoing president Mark Sette for the president position, but he said he respectfully declined because his wife had recently been diagnosed with a health issue.

The other new board officers include: Tim Ramthun, vice president; Stephanie Bird, clerk; and Dennis Aupperle, treasurer.

Bird agreed to be the CESA 6 representative. Aupperle will serve as the WASB delegate for the district. Vickie Plachinski, the executive assistant for Kewaskum Schools and deputy clerk for the board, agreed to continue performing the ministerial and administrative duties of the clerk position.

Leister told the board members that they can sign up to serve on different committees, such as finance, policy, and building and grounds. He told the board members to give it some thought and let him know which committees they are interested in. Community members also serve on the committees.

"The door is open," Leister said. "Anyone is welcome to any committee."

The special board meeting adjourned at about 5:55 p.m. With the new officers now elected, the board met for a regular board meeting about five minutes later, at 6 p.m.

One of the first items on the regular agenda was "Agenda Corrections and/or Deletions." After that item was read, Board Member Doug Gonring moved to adjourn the meeting. Ramthun seconded the motion.

"Is there some discussion on this topic?" Sette asked.

Leister said no and called for a roll call vote. The motion passed, with Ramthun, Aupperle, Gonring and Leister all voting to adjourn the meeting. For meetings, the board follows Robert's Rules of Order, which do not require discussion prior to meeting adjournment.

Leister said the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 19, at 6 p.m., after he meets with Superintendent James Smasal to go over the agenda for the next meeting.

Leister told the other board members to contact him before the next meeting if they want anything on the next agenda of if they have any questions.

Items that had been on the May 11 agenda include: superintendent's report, business manager report, payroll, accounts payable, public hearing to waive instructional hours requirements, WIAA membership renewal for the 2020-21 school year, job descriptions, charter school contract and facility use by outside groups, including daycares.

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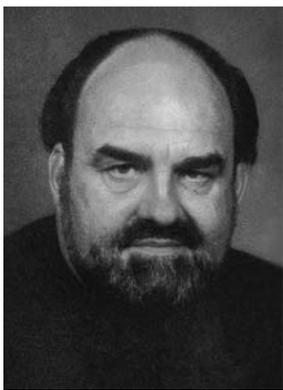
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OBITUARIES



William Gehl

William "Bill" Gehl, 75, of Kewaskum, peacefully passed away on Saturday, May 9, 2020 at the Waterford in West Bend, with his wife at his side.

Bill was born on May 2, 1945 in West Bend to the late Frederic and Margaret (nee Mueller) Gehl. In 1963, he graduated West Bend High School. On June 8, 1968, he married the love of his life, Cheryl Timmerman at St. John Lutheran Church in New Fane and together, they raised two children. Bill was a hands-on type, who loved hunting – especially deer and turkey – and grilling all year round. He worked as a draftsman and car mechanic and was a truck mechanic at West Bend Transit and Service Co. for over 25 years.

Bill loved living near the Kettle Moraine and attended the races at Elkhart Lake. He was a talented woodworker, crafting beautiful pieces including pens, cutting boards, and bowls. Additionally, he was a Millennium Member of the NRA, a New Fane Sportsman's Club member since 1965, and a member of the Wisconsin Parkinson's Association. He will be dearly missed by all those that knew him.

Those Bill leaves behind to cherish his memory include his devoted wife, Cheryl; two chil-

dren, Kirk (Theresa) Gehl of Plymouth and Carrie (Brian) Rose of Colorado; four grandchildren, Sylvia Gehl, Lucas Rose, Dylan Gehl, and Kirin Rose; sister, Beverly Saviello; sister-in-law, Karen (Leon) Schultz; and many other nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents, Bill is preceded in death by his mother and father-in-law, Walter and Beatrice Timmerman; a brother, Robert Gehl; brother-in-law, Steven Timmerman; and sister-in-law, Jill Timmerman.

Due to current restrictions, a funeral service with Rev. Jacob Strand officiating will be held for Bill's family at the Myrhum – Patten Funeral Home in West Bend. Bill's service will be recorded. The video of the service will be posted on our website at www.myrhum-patten.com.

Please consider signing our online guest book (www.myrhum-patten.com) to share your condolences with the family. Cards addressed to the family may be sent in care of: Myrhum – Patten Funeral and Cremation Service, 1315 W. Washington Street, West Bend, WI 53095.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in Bill's name to the Michael J. Fox Foundation (Donation Processing, P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014) would be greatly appreciated.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Bill's three doctors, Gary Leo, Kathryn Gaines, and Steve Holcomb. They would also like to thank therapist Julie Schueller of Riverside Physical Therapy, physical therapists/facilitators Beth and Steve of the Parkinson Exercise class at West Bend YMCA, the staff at Just Like Home Daycare and the Memory Care Staff at the Waterford of West Bend, and Ken for his well-appreciated visits and diligence in taking Bill to his

appointments.

Myrhum-Patten Funeral & Cremation Service has been entrusted with Bill's arrangements. Additional information and guest book may be found at www.myrhum-patten.com.

JAKES Fishing Day To Be Held August 1

JAKES (Juniors Acquiring Knowledge Ethics Sportsmanship) Fishing Day will be held on Saturday, Aug. 1, at River Hill Park in Kewaskum.

Fishing will be from 9 a.m. to noon, followed by lunch, door prizes and biggest fish prizes for participating youth. There is no charge to attend the event.

This event is sponsored by Gateway Gobblers, NWT Chapter.

This event is held annually the first Saturday in June. Due to uncertain times, the date was postponed until Saturday, August 1. Any adult who plans to fish will need to have a fishing license, but kids 15 and younger can fish for free.

Library Happenings



ACTIVITIES AT THE KEWASKUM LIBRARY

The Kewaskum Public Library, 206 1st St. in Kewaskum, is offering the following programs. For more information, contact the library at kewaskum@monarchlibraries.org.

The library is closed until further notice. Please contact us by email or phone. The Digital Library is always open. Check out our electronic resources and databases page on our website. kewaskum.lib.wi.us

Storytime on Facebook Live Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Join Miss Kim every week on Facebook Live for a story, song and craft. Call us to arrange pickup of a grab and go craft bag each week. www.facebook.com/kewaskumpubliclibrary

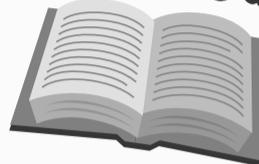
Library To-Go

Do you have holds you need to pick up? Looking to check out items we have on our shelves? Call us to arrange a contactless pickup time. This is offered Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10 - 2.

Recipe Club - Cocktails & Hors D'Oeuvres Tuesday, May 19, 6:00 PM

Join the Recipe Club using Zoom. We will enjoy cocktails and appetizers while we chat about food, books and more. Email kewaskum@monarchlibraries.org to receive a link to join us using Zoom. Unsure how to use this software? Call us and a librarian will help you set it up.

Check It Out!



A Column By Kewaskum Librarian Lori Kreis

It is the middle of May and we are usually in the final stages of planning your Summer Learning Program. We are still preparing to have a Summer Learning Program this year, but as everything else in our lives, it will be very different from what you are accustomed to. All the details are not worked out yet but here are some things I can share about it.

The Division of Libraries and Technology in Wisconsin's Department of Public Instruction will be sponsoring a statewide online reading challenge platform and mobile app to support summer library programming for several years beginning this summer. Kewaskum Public Library will be opting into this program and plan to roll it out to our patrons around the middle of June. The program is called Beanstack and I am familiar with it because it was the platform we used for Summer Reading when I worked in a different library system. It allows participants to track their reading and learning progress online or through the app by completing challenges and earning badges. For those that prefer the more traditional route, we will provide paper logs.

Staff is working on personalizing Beanstack to make it most relevant for our patrons. We also are looking to make it as simple as possible for all involved. Our Summer Learning Program will encompass all age groups and there will be a variety of challenges to choose from and prizes when badges are completed.

We are looking to host a fun, educational and as interactive as we can make it, summer library event.

One thing we will not be having this year are performers in person because those bring in large groups of children and caregivers. Additionally, depending on what level we are in the Badger Bounce Back Plan, we may not have many in-person programs at all. We have had success with providing online programming, such as Wednesday morning story time the past couple months and will build on that as needed.

The library is hoping that you continue to use our services throughout the summer and join us in our innovative Summer Learning Challenge. For one, the value of keeping your children reading and learning throughout the summer is more important than it has ever been. The loss of skills in reading and other academic achievements when children are not in school has been researched and provided confident conclusions that a Summer Learning Program is effective in preventing this loss. So, the library will continue to provide a program this summer that will look somewhat different, but the outcome will be similar to previous years', enhancing your children's skills and fostering the love of learning.

Stay tuned for more information on our Summer Learning Program.

Hope to see you soon.

Lori Kreis
Library Director
Kewaskum Public Library



The Kewaskum Statesman is now adding complete OBITUARIES to our website DAILY to help keep our readers informed.

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DAYS GONE BY

**5 Years Ago
May 21, 2015**

Kids Need To Read (KNTR) has teamed with Gary and Tina Mlodzik to launch a revolutionary library donation project. Inspired by their shared love of reading, family and public libraries, this partnership will deliver free books and story time to local libraries during the couple's travels. Kewaskum was the recipient of 200 books from the KNTR organization, valued at \$1,445.

The Kewaskum Village-Wide Rummage Sale will be held May 21-23.

At the 2015 Gateway to the Arts Festival held May 9, over 1,710 2D and 3D pieces of art were on display at the Kewaskum Middle School.

With opening kick right down to the final seconds, the Kewaskum High soccer team played one of its best games of the season last Thursday by shutting out visiting Waupun 4-0.

The Kewaskum High boys tennis team was very successful last week, with three wins, including a 7-0 shutout against host Waupun on May 14. The day before that, the Indians dominated a match vs. Two Rivers, winning 7-0, and the Indians started the week with a 6-1 victory over Chilton.

Mark A. Weber, 53, Beechwood, passed away May 13.

Rev. Father Robert J. Berghammer, 90, passed away May 12.

Tennies Ace Hardware advertised a sale on three grills; each with free assembly.

The Boltonville Fire Department Rain Days are scheduled for May 22-24. Continuous music all three days in the Beer Garden include Flatland Harmony Experiment, Road Trip & Lunacy, Gramps With Amps, Saving Savannah & Riding Shotgun, Good Time Dutchmen & Carol and the Keynotes, Pink Houses, and Rebel Grace.

**15 Years Ago
May 19, 2005**

After two months of surveillance, the Washington County Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Unit and Sheriff's deputies made a major drug bust in the Village of Kewaskum. James Andaloro, 43, was arrested and charged this week after authorities seized 814 grams of cocaine and 30 grams of marijuana from his home in the Potawatomi Prairie subdivision. Kewaskum Police Chief Dick Knoebel says this is the largest seizure he can recall in the village.

Kewaskumites had

their mouths watering for a new rib chain that was rumored to be coming to the village's new commercial development park. That rumor was squashed Tuesday afternoon. Instead, it's the pets of those Kewaskumites whose mouths may be watering as a new Purina feed mill will open. Jim Schwitze of Famous Dave's American stated that his company will not approve a franchise to open in Kewaskum. He stated that the chain builds only in populations of 55,000 or more.

Kewaskum High School held its Junior Prom on May 14. Queen was Danielle Dreher and King was Marcus Belger. Other court members included Rachel Vogt, Luke Herriges, Lora Jo Christie, Jeremy Gurholt, Kim Baker, Austin Flanders, Jackie McKee, Mac Abfall, Leanne Kison, Paul Gaynor, Jamie Vogt and Garrett Donath.

One of the major items on the Kewaskum Town Board agenda was updating the town's computer system. The town approved purchasing a new laptop for Town Clerk Sandy Stern. This will replace the laptop that is unusable.

The Kewaskum School Board has approved spending \$17,280 to replace two ovens purchased in 1991. They also approved furniture purchases at Farmington and Wayne Elementary Schools.

David Brace, 21, was sentenced to 40 years in prison and will face extended supervision after his prison stay. Brace admitted to killing 18-year-old Katie Gensmer of West Bend. He left her dead on the New Fane Hiking Trail in the Town of Auburn almost a year ago.

A daughter, Stephanie Madelyn, was born to Carol and Craig Erdmann, Campbellsport, on May 5.

A daughter, Jillian Renee, was born to Andrea and Josh Yanke, Campbellsport, on May 9.

A daughter, Kovi Lauren, was born to Angie and Rusty Hermann, Campbellsport, on May 6.

A daughter, Mackenzie Lea, was born to Jayne M. and Mark E. Steiner, Kewaskum, on May 5.

A daughter, Skyler Rose, was born to Shellee and Scott Geshrick, Lomira, on May 4.

A daughter, Aurora Rose, was born to Heather and Andrew Weisspeters, Eau Claire, on March 6.

Ned W. Sengpiel, 89, Kewaskum, passed

away May 13.

Dr. William Hausmann IV, 77, West Bend, passed away May 12.

Infant Buddy Lettow passed away May 11.

Michael James Heron Sr., 54, town of Eden, passed away May 10.

**25 Years Ago
May 18, 1995**

The main topic of debate at Monday's school board meeting centered around budget cuts, revenue caps, and the reclassification of three janitor/custodial positions, resulting in the elimination of their health and dental benefits. Faced with the immense task of preparing the upcoming budget and reducing expenses to meet revenue caps, the board was asked to approve the reclassification of the three positions from full-time full year to full-time school year. This would save the district approximately \$25,000 and eliminate the employees' health and dental coverage as well as vacation days and several paid holidays.

More than 2,500 people braved the blustery weather on Saturday to attend the Regal Ware, Inc. 50th Anniversary Open House.

Ted Kuehn of Kewaskum was one of only 23 students from the state who was invited to the University of Wisconsin, Madison Math, Science and Engineering Talent Search, Honors Day Program. Students were elected by their abilities to use creative ways to solve difficult math problems, which are sent out five times a school year. This is the second year in a row that the junior has been honored.

The two Kiwanis students of the month for May are Heather Reindl and Holly Reindl. The two are the daughters of Cheryl Reindl.

Two local art students were selected to have their artwork on display in the Regional Youth Art Month Exhibit in Appleton. Megan Petermann is a fifth grader at Kewaskum Elementary School. Wendy Rahlf is a fourth grader at Wayne Elementary School. Wendy was selected to receive a 1995 W.T. Graham Youth Art

Award.

Shefond Mobil Mart in Kewaskum recently began demolition of its convenience store as part of an extensive remodeling project. The store will be closed during the month of June and is targeted to re-open by July 4.

Kewaskum Police Chief Richard Knoebel attended a two-day training workshop May 1 and 2. The workshop was for coordinating emergency response at the local level through the use of the Incident Command System.

The Kewaskum girls track team captured the Eastern Wisconsin Conference Championship.

Walter G. Dobberphul, 93, Kewaskum, passed away May 16.

Elsa M. Schneider, 85, formerly of the Town of Scott, passed away May 15.

David W. Opgenorth, 56, passed away May 6. Charles Voage, 57, Fredonia, passed away May 10.

Helen M. Spaeth, 77, Kewaskum, passed away May 13.

Clarence Pieper, 80, Mayville, passed away May 13.

Ralph F. Beall, 25, Chicago, Illinois, passed away May 12.

Margaret M. King, 79, Kewaskum, passed away May 9.

**50 Years Ago
May 15, 1970**

The Kewaskum Board of Education authorized on Tuesday night a topographical study and soil borings be made at the site of the proposed expansion of the high school. The recently purchased area is adjacent to the school. The action was taken after the members viewed preliminary long-range building plans.

On May 16, Kewaskum students will join West Bend students on a "Hunger Hike" from West Bend through Kewaskum and back to West Bend. This is not a protest. It is an organized walk in which hikers will be sponsored by local businessmen, parents, relatives and friends. Each sponsor will pledge an amount per mile. At the end of the hike, each walker will be paid accordingly. An estimated 600 to 800 area students with back-

ers will participate in the Freedom from Hunger Walk for Development.

Darlene Bonlender and Anne Edwards were each awarded a \$100 scholarship by the Kewaskum Woman's Club.

A tornado alert will be held May 18. These alerts will continue to be held the third Monday of each month through October.

New officers for the 1970-1972 seasons of the Jr. Woman's Club were installed on May 9. They include president Mrs. Marvin Perkins, vice president Mrs. Harvey Ramthun, recording secretary Mrs. Norman Heberer, treasurer Mrs. Ethan Etta, and corresponding secretary Mrs. Dennis Bingen.

Bev Rohlinger of Kewaskum was the all-events winner in the 1970 West Bend Women's Bowling Association tournament completed recently. She won the title with 1573-144-1717, well ahead of the second-place winner.

**75 Years Ago
May 11, 1945**

On May 17, a Navy unit under the authorization of the commandant of the Ninth Naval District will appear at Fillmore and Richfield. This Navy unit is brought here by the Washington County War Finance Committee and will consist of a chief petty officer, a marine, a soldier, a sailor, and a coast guardsman. All are recently returned combat veterans.

Salaries for the enuring year were set at the May 7 village meeting. Included are the marshal at \$200 per year, including board; health officer, \$20 per year; secretary of water department, \$225 per year; and superintendent of public works, \$185 per month, to be apportioned a follows: \$120 to be paid by the village and \$65 to be paid by the water department, including insurance on the car used in connection with village work. George Kippenhan is the marshal, Dr. R.G. Edwards is the health officer, August E. Koch is the secretary of water department, and William Schaub is the superintendent of public works.

Dr. R.G. Edwards placed a note in the pub-

lication regarding an eye injury. He stated that a group of village grown-up children, mostly high school pupils, had gathered at the school grounds to play ball. There were several other boys, whom the doctor called cowards and bullies, throwing stones at the players. The doctor stated that one stone struck Allen Dreher just above the right eye, which opened the skin to the bone. According to the doctor, such a blow can put out an eye instantly. "Any parent who knowingly permits his child to throw stones deserves a public showing and a jail sentence besides."

Kewaskum was bright with neon signs and display lights on Wednesday night as the first effects of the removal of the brownout ban lifted that day were experienced. The town took on an air of gaiety as the streets were made bright again. The brownout was effected some 72 nights ago. The midnight curfew was also abandoned Wednesday and most of the nightspots remained open until 1 a.m. again.

Due to the shortage of sugar and sweets, the Kewaskum Bakery will be closed all day each Monday, beginning May 14 until further notice.

Grade of the valedictorian and salutatorian of the class of 45 of Kewaskum differ by only .12 of a point. Lois Koch, having an average of 95.765, will deliver the valedictory of farewell address. Rachel Brauchle, having an average of 95.603, will present the salutation or welcoming address. The speeches will be delivered on May 25.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Theusch, Kewaskum, on May 8.

**100 Years Ago
Information for this
year is no longer
available.**

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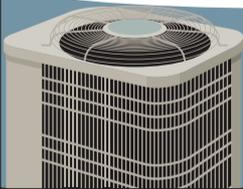
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continued from front

Business Owners Share Their Views On Shutdown

Ramthun interviewed the following people: Wendi Dreher, Hair On Main; Dodie Sargent, Little Folks School House; Mike Otten and Doug Gonring, West Bend Elevator; Mike Kunkel, Kettle Moraine Town & Country; Daryl Frey, Woodland Creek Supper Club; and Dan Stoffel, Stoffel Farms.

"In times like this, it's crucial that we all help out and support each other as a community. We're all anxiously anticipating the reopening of our state," Ramthun said.

The following are the stories that were shared on video with Ramthun:

Wendi Dreher, Hair On Main

Wendi Dreher, owner of Hair On Main, has been in the salon business for about 39 years.

There are 10 other ladies besides Dreher

who have their own businesses inside the Hair On Main building, located at 227 Main St. in Kewaskum. They have been in the salon business anywhere from four to 40 years.

"Before COVID, we were open six days a week. I was here 12 to 14 hours a day," Dreher said.

Clients are feeling the effects of the loss of the service at the salon.

"Some of our clients were weekly regulars, so some of them have probably not washed their own hair since 1961," Dreher said.

Dreher said that she did not think the salon should be shut down because it has always followed sanitation rules.

"We have always had sanitation prior to this. I am always washing my hands before, after, sometimes between clients. We have always

had a sanitation station at the checkout. We have always had sanitary at the shampoo bowls. So as soon as you are done shampooing or rinsing somebody, we have always had our disinfectant that we spray," Dreher said.

She also pointed out that hairdressers are required to attend classes and need to be licensed in the State of Wisconsin.

"I can't cut your hair legally unless I have a license. So how essential and how much better you feel and look after we are all done might be worth quite a bit," Dreher said.

Dreher also does not like being labeled a "nonessential" worker.

"As a head of a household, I don't know how much more essential you want to call it as putting a roof over your head," she said.



The Little Folks School House daycare center in Kewaskum has been affected by the Safer At Home order that was enacted in Wisconsin two months ago. **photo submitted**

Dodie Sargent, Little Folks School House

The Little Folks School House daycare center is licensed for 82 children. The main site in Kewaskum has five classrooms; the center also has two before- and after-school classrooms in the community.

"We closed for six weeks for our school-age program and five weeks here at the main site. Since then, we just reopened this past Monday and six of my teachers that are splitting the week have come back to work," Sargent, who is owner of the daycare center, said on April 29.

The directive to close came very suddenly.

"We were just hit out of the blue. We were told on a Friday afternoon we are done. We cannot get back into the schools," Sargent said.

"What worries me more is the children. They are too young to

understand what is going on. All of a sudden their world is upside down," she added.

Little Folks typically runs a summer program for children, but the center has been told that it can't get into the schools until at least June 30, and schools have not even committed to giving the center space for the summer.

ing the center space for the summer.

"So our typical summer school program, we don't know if it is going to run or not, which kind of leaves the parents up in the air," Sargent said. "Right now no one knows where they are going to go."

continued on page 13



The 11 people who operate their businesses out of Hair On Main in Kewaskum have not been able to work since the state shut down in March. **photo submitted**



Dodie Sargent, owner of the Little Folks School House daycare center in Kewaskum, talks on a video about the "Safer At Home" order in Wisconsin. **photo submitted**

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Washington County Parks Announces Partnership With Metro MTB

– Design And Construct Mountain Bike Trails At Heritage Trails County Park In Slinger

The Washington County Board of Supervisors approved a new non-profit-public partnership with Metro Mountain Bikers, a Greater Milwaukee mountain bike trail advocacy group. Six to eight miles of premier Kettle Moraine flow style mountain bike trails will be designed and constructed in the next 12 to 18 months.

“Mountain biking has been increasing in pop-

ularity and demand, all of the past County Park surveys and Wisconsin DNR southeastern Wisconsin recreation surveys have confirmed this public demand for more opportunities in our area,” said Parks and Trails Manager Eric Hyde. “We’re truly honored and excited for this opportunity to partner with a well-established organization like Metro MTB that has the resources and track

record to take on a project like this.”

“Metro could not be more excited for the opportunity to partner with Washington County Parks. Mountain Biking Recreation is quickly growing across the nation and so many Washington County and Southeast Wisconsin residents are seeking trails and new recreation experiences. Washington County was quick to recognize the need for

increased recreation and approached Metro two years ago to begin exploring the build out of trail in Heritage Trails County Park. Here we are today breaking ground and creating something that will really make a statement for all of Wisconsin,” said Metro MTB President James Mattox. “These trails are going to be some of the best in the entire state. We will have a little bit of every-

thing for riders of all abilities and skill levels. Deploying the newest trail building techniques and features, we will have single track, flow trail with A and B lines, as well as more progressive Black Diamond areas built into the park with jumps, drops and features that will challenge even the best of riders. This trail system will draw riders from at least three states away to see what has been

built in Washington County! To say we are excited would be an understatement.”

If you are interested in getting involved with the project, please visit Metro MTB’s contact information at www.metro-mountainbikers.com/Contact. You can support this project and their cause by volunteering, donating to this project, becoming a sponsor, and/or by becoming a Metro MTB Member.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Kewaskum Village Board Meeting Minutes April 6, 2020, 7:00 PM

The Kewaskum Village Board, Washington County, Wisconsin met in regular session via VB video conference.

President Scheunemann called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present were Richard Laubach, Sarah Severance, Dave Spenner, Jim Wright, Jim Hovland, Richard Knoebel and Kevin Scheunemann. Staff members present: Administrator Matt Heiser, DPW Working Foreman Dennis Aupperle, Police Chief Tom Bishop, Fire Chief Mark Groeschel, Treasurer Julie Hundertmark, Library Director Lori Kreis and Clerk Tammy Butz. Members from the community and the news media were also present.

Notice of the meeting had been posted at PNC Bank, Kewaskum Post Office and at the Municipal Building on Friday, April 3, 2020. Notice was also forwarded to the Village Board, Village Attorney and the news media.

Motion by Trustee Wright to approve the March 16, 2020 meeting minutes, Trustee Hovland seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

REPORT OF DEPARTMENT HEADS

Police Chief Tom Bishop provided a COVID-19 update, highlights are:

- We are complying with Governor Evers Safer at Home order; playgrounds have been closed.

- There are 5 confirmed COVID-19 cases in the 53040 zip code.

- An account was created in the FEMA Grant Portal and costs associated with COVID-19 are being tracked.

- Crossing Guard employees will be continued to be paid through April 13, 2020; School district will reimburse the Village.

- The School Resource Officer (SRO) will not be working at school for two-months, the school district may ask for a reimbursement on the SRO Agreement for his wages.

- The police department has implemented an emergency 12-hour schedule change to limit contact and exposure; this includes two teams of three each.

- DARE graduation for Holy Trinity students was done via Zoom.

- Donations from the community are being received; food, surgical mask, cards from Tuttle Creek.

DPW Working Foreman Dennis Aupperle report highlights:

- Trees over the creek by the Fire Department were cut down into small pieces.

- The first round of street cleaning is near completion.

- Playgrounds have been roped off per Safer at Home order. There is a lot of activity at the parks. The parks will be opening restrooms; they are being cleaned daily – two or three times.

- The DPW yard has been very active with a steady stream of residents. It is open Monday-Friday from 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM and Saturdays from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM, except holidays.

- Election setup has been done.

- Bulk pick-up has been postponed.

- Brush chipping start date has been postponed due to COVID-19 concerns; consensus of Village Board is to start May 4, 2020.

Administrator Matt Heiser report highlights:

- Due to Governor Evers’s Safer at Home initiative, all activity in the lobby of the administrative building has been terminated; with the exception of in-person voting. Decision was made in concert with Village President Scheunemann.

- The front counter is still busy; with phone calls concerning bulk pick-up and the DPW Yard.

- There has been an unprecedented demand on absentee ballots; currently at 10 times normal.

Clerk/Deputy Treasurer Tammy Butz provided an update on the April 7, 2020 election. As of the time of the meeting, the election is on as originally planned with absentee ballots being accepted through April 13th at 4 p.m. Absentee ballots requested for this election as of Friday, April 3rd is 1,085.

Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Julie Hundertmark provided a copy of the memo

to employees on the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. This summarizes provisions available to employees. This will be addressed later in the meeting

Library Director Lori Kreis reported on Library activity. With the library closed, circulation is down as expected, about 28%. Overdrive and other electronic resources are up anywhere from 32-200%. Staff is working at home with scheduled time on site to minimize social interaction. Deliveries have been suspended until further notice. Monarch might send bins in and staff may come in to check items in. They are connecting with residents via the internet; including with Facebook Live Storytime.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative – no report

Protection & Public Safety – no report

Public Works and Public Services – no report

Plan Commission – no report; a meeting will be held on April 28, 2020 via Zoom

Park & Recreation – no report

Library Board – next meeting is April 13, 2020 at 1:30 PM via Zoom

Mid-Moraine – next meeting is tentatively May 13, 2020; dinner meeting in March was postponed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Scheunemann discussed issuing full refunds for Facility Rentals cancelled due to COVID-19. Motion to approve by Trustee Spenner, Trustee Knoebel seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

President Scheunemann discussed the creation of a new Welcome Committee consisting of three members in volunteer capacity. Committee member names were unavailable. Motion to table by Trustee Hovland, Trustee Laubach seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Police Chief Tom Bishop presented revisions to ordinances relating to public health nuisances and enforcement. The changes allow the Police Chief, in lieu of a Health Officer, the ability to enforce the Safer at Home initiative and any future emergency orders.

Motion to approve by Trustee Knoebel, Trustee Spenner seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Administer Heiser requested to prohibit cash payments during the COVID-19 pandemic due to potentially contaminated bills. Decision in concert with President Scheunemann currently prohibits cash payments. With lobby closed, staff cannot make change for cash payments. For overpayments, we would need to apply a credit to customer’s account. Motion to accept cash but not provide change by Trustee Wright, Trustee Hovland seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Administrator Heiser presented request to determine and continue essential and non-essential services per the Safer at Home order. Essential positions are Administrator, Police Department staff, Fire Department staff (no training, only responding to calls), DPW staff and Utilities. Library staff was deemed non-essential and is currently closed until Library Board or Village Board determines date to open. Motion to approve by Trustee Knoebel, Trustee Wright seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Administrator Heiser introduced discussion on paying Village staff for normal working hours during the COVID-19 pandemic. There are groups that are not working at normal staffing levels. Crossing Guards are not working. Part-time Library employees are currently working from home about 5 hours per week. President Scheunemann stated that if we lay off, the Village stills pays for staff through Unemployment Compensation. Trustee Spenner suggested alternate work within Village. Motion by Trustee Hovland to explore alternate work, Trustee Spenner seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Police Chief Bishop requested road closures for the 125th Anniversary Parade on June 13, 2020. Parade route is the normal route in reverse and includes Main Street and Highway 45 detours. Motion to approve by Trustee Knoebel, Trustee Severance seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Police Chief Bishop recommended approval of Operator License for Melissa Matenaer. Motion to approve by Trustee Knoebel, Trustee Spenner seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Administrator Heiser presented discussion to exempt essential Village staff from the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. New legislature grants additional sick time, including child care. For purposes of the FFCRA, propose to define Emergency Responders as all Building Inspection, Fire, Police, Public Works, Utility Department employees and Village Administrator, Village Clerk and Village Treasurer. Motion to approve by Trustee Spenner, Trustee Severance seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – no public comments

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:09 PM by Trustee Wright, Trustee Laubach seconded, roll call vote: Laubach-aye, Severance-aye, Spenner-aye, Knoebel-aye, Hovland-aye, Wright-aye, Scheunemann-aye (7-0), meeting adjourned.

Tammy Butz
Clerk/Deputy Treasurer
5-14 WNAXLP

Kewaskum Village Board Meeting Minutes April 20, 2020, 7:00 PM

The Kewaskum Village Board, Washington County, Wisconsin met in regular session via video conference.

President Scheunemann called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present were Richard Laubach, Sarah Severance, Dave Spenner, Jim Wright, Jim Hovland, Richard Knoebel and Kevin Scheunemann. Staff members present were Administrator Heiser, DPW Working Foreman Dennis Aupperle, Police Chief Tom Bishop, Fire Chief Mark Groeschel, Treasurer Julie Hundertmark, Library Director Lori Kreis and Clerk Tammy Butz. Members from the community and the news media were also present.

Notice of the meeting had been posted at PNC Bank, Kewaskum Post Office and at the Municipal

Building on Friday, April 17, 2020. Notice was also forwarded to the Village Board, Village Attorney and the news media.

Motion by Trustee Wright to approve the April 6, 2020 meeting minutes, Trustee Severance seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

President Scheunemann opened the public hearing on the Class “B” Retail Fermented Malt Beverage application from Jennifer Marx for the Kewaskum Athletic Association, Kiwanis Park, Brooklane Drive, for the period of April 25, 2020 to October 25, 2020. Trustee Spenner questioned what happens if we can’t open the park. Trustee Knoebel indicated he’d want to ensure they have an option for a refund. Motion by Trustee Knoebel to close the public hearing, Trustee Hovland seconded and carried by roll call vote. Hovland – aye, Wright – aye, Spenner – aye, Severance – aye, Knoebel – aye, Laubach – aye, Scheunemann – aye (7-0).

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS

Fire Chief Groeschel presented the March 2020 report:

Fire calls	6
Year to date	14
Fire Training	132.50 hours
Year to date	464.75 hours
Rescue calls	25
Miles	568

Fire Chief Mark Groeschel announced that he is expecting the new ambulance by the end of April.

Police Chief Thomas Bishop presented the March 2020 report:

Ordinance Citations	14
Traffic Citations	29
Traffic Warnings	56
Traffic Accidents	2
OWI Arrests	1
Felony Charges	2
Misdemeanor Charges	3

DPW Working Foreman Dennis Aupperle reported on the DPW activity:

- Park update: water has been turned on and branch and stumps cleaned up

- The DPW Yard continues to be busy with grass & leaf drop-off

- WWTP has started work on Brooklane Drive culverts

PUBLIC NOTICES

•Salt order has been made with the County, price has not been confirmed.

Discussion ensued about accelerating timeline on sidewalk inspections and weed abatement on the roads. Trustee Knoebel advised that Jake's Free Fishing Day has been delayed and they are looking at an August date.

Administrator Heiser reported on the two Administrative Assistant positions, the deadline for applications was April 17, 2020, the Village received five (5) applications in total. Administrator Heiser advised that he would like to review and see if the deadline should be extended. Trustee Knoebel stated we need to fill these positions and start interviews. President Scheunemann suggested to move forward with filling one position with the appropriate committee. Consensus of Village Board to move forward.

Clerk Tammy Butz provided a summary on the April 7th Spring Election and Presidential Preference Primary. Oath of Offices need to be signed by May 1st by the re-elected trustees.

Treasurer Julie Hundertmark presented the Cash on Hand and Investments March 2020 Report. She noted that interest rates have dropped in the past month.

Library Director Lori Kreis reported that book drops have re-opened and they have received new material. Lori Kreis and her staff are preparing for curbside pickup. Ancestry.com is now available at the library. Trustee Spenner congratulated Lori Kreis on the extra efforts/activities that the library is offering. Kim Kluge was recognized for her research.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative – The Administrative Committee met earlier this evening. Trustee Spenner made the recommendation on payment of bills including three from Zimmerman. Trustee Wright motioned to approve payment of bills including three from Zimmerman, seconded by Trustee Severance, voice vote, motion carried.

Protection and Public Safety – no report

Public Works and Public Services – no report

Plan Commission – Trustee Hovland report that a meeting is scheduled for April 28, 2020.

Park and Recreation – no report

Library Board – Trustee Spenner reported that they met on April 13, 2020 and approved payment of Library bills.

Mid-Moraine – Trustee Hovland reported that they are tentatively planning to meet the 2nd week of May and that the annual dinner meeting is on hold until September 2020.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
President Scheunemann

members of the new volunteer Welcome Committee; Keri Seiler to a three (3)-year term, Trustee Severance to a two (2)-year term and Becky May to a one (1)-year term. Motion by Trustee Spenner to create the Welcome Committee with named committee members, seconded by Trustee Knoebel, voice vote, motion carried.

Administrator Heiser discussed the extension of Safer at Home Order to May 26, 2020. Requested that the Board approve continuation of Municipal Building doors being locked and residents directed to use drop box; accept cash no change. Trustee Hovland agreed that this is a good policy. DPW Working Foreman Dennis Aupperle requested postponing brush chipping. Discussion ensued on brush chipping.

Administrator Heiser indicated that if the extension of Safer at Home Order stands, we would need to postpone opening the pool and hiring of workers. In addition, the 125th Anniversary celebration has been postponed. Unsure of impact on Music in the Park.

Clerk Butz advised that Grotta Appraisals is requesting recommendation by the Village Board on how to proceed with the Board of Review meeting on May 7, 2020. President Scheunemann recommended immediate adjournment and postpone to future date.

President Scheunemann proposed motion to postpone brush chipping until after emergency is lifted; continue hiring process for pool workers and train after order is lifted, Board of Review to adjourn and reconvene after order is lifted. Motion by Trustee Wright, Trustee Hovland seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Administrator Heiser requested clarification on Rental Facility refunds that the board approved during the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff received request for a full refund for rental in August due to COVID-19. Trustee Laubach motion for full refunds through August 2020, Trustee Spenner seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

President Scheunemann proposed waiving liquor license permit fees for businesses affected by COVID-19. Administrator Heiser advised of minimum state requirements. Trustee Spenner inquired about Tattoo Parlors, Cigarette and other permit fees; would those be included. Discussion ensued on how the Village will recoup lost revenue that was budgeted for and the need to reduce expenditures by a similar amount to balance the budget. President Scheunemann requested that Administrator look into this. Trustee Severance suggested a proration of fees based on time businesses were not open. Trustee Hovland motioned to table to next meeting, Trustee Spenner seconded, voice vote motion tabled.

Treasurer Hundertmark requested the approval to move from PNC Deposit Now to Deposit On-Site. This service has been in use and is working well. Originally there was no fee, but PNC will be charging same fee as Deposit Now and we are receiving a better service/product. Motion by Trustee Wright to approve Deposit On-Site, Trustee Spenner seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Administrator Heiser presented the job descriptions for a new DPW Maintenance position. He requested to move forward with a goal hiring by July 1st. Motion by Trustee Wright to approve, Trustee Hovland seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Administrator provided a brief summary of the breakdown of expenses for the Brooklane Drive project and a proposed 10-year vs 20-year debt note with tax impact to fund this project. Discussion ensued on delaying project, however this was approved by the board, contract signed and work has begun. Motion by Trustee Wright to approve 20-year debt note, seconded by Trustee Severance, motion carried by roll call vote: Hovland – aye, Wright – aye, Severance – aye, Laubach – aye, Knoebel – aye, Spenner – aye, Scheunemann – nay (5-2)

Administrator Heiser reported that the Farmer's Market is looking to change hours on Thursday's to 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Trustee Spenner motioned to approve, seconded by Trustee Laubach, voice vote, motion carried.

Trustee Knoebel motioned to approve the application of Class "B" Retail Fermented Malt Beverage application from Jennifer Marx of Kewaskum Athletic Association at Kiwanis Park from April 25, 2020-October 25, 2020, seconded by Trustee Wright and carried by roll call vote: Hovland – aye, Wright – aye, Severance – aye, Laubach – nay, Knoebel – aye, Spenner – aye, Scheunemann – aye (6-1). Trustee Wright motioned to appoint Jennifer Marx as agent for the aforementioned, Trustee Severance seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Trustee Spenner motioned to approve the application of a Temporary Class "B" Retailer's License from Mike Schickert of Kewaskum Fire Fighters Association for Music in the Park, River Hill Park for all 2020 dates listed, seconded by Trustee Wright and carried by roll call vote: Hovland – aye, Wright – aye, Severance – aye, Laubach – aye, Knoebel – aye, Spenner – aye, Scheunemann – aye (7-0). Trustee Wright motioned to appoint Steven Staehler as agent for the aforementioned, Trustee Severance seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Trustee Hovland motioned to approve the application of a Temporary Class

"B" Retailer's License from Mike Schickert of Kewaskum Fire Fighters Association for their Water Fight Tourney, River Hill Park on August 15, 2020, seconded by Trustee Wright and carried by roll call vote: Hovland – aye, Wright – aye, Severance – aye, Laubach – aye, Knoebel – aye, Spenner – aye, Scheunemann – aye (7-0). Trustee Wright motioned to appoint Patrick Schmitt as agent for the aforementioned, Trustee Severance seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Trustee Wright motioned to approve the application of a Temporary Class "B" Retailer's License from Mike Schickert of Kewaskum Fire Fighters Association Cars in Kewaskum, Downtown Parking Lot on September 20, 2020, seconded by Trustee Spenner and carried by roll call vote: Hovland – aye, Wright – aye, Severance – aye, Laubach – aye, Knoebel – aye, Spenner – aye, Scheunemann – aye (7-0). Trustee Wright motioned to appoint Andrew Dahlberg as agent for the aforementioned, Trustee Severance seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Trustee Severance motioned to approve the Operator's Licenses below, Trustee Laubach seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

•Steven Staehler, Kewaskum, WI, Kewaskum Fire Fighters Association
•Andrew Dahlberg, Kewaskum, WI, Kewaskum Fire Fighters Association
•Patrick Schmitt, Kewaskum, WI, Kewaskum Fire Fighters Association
•Timothy McDonald, Kewaskum, WI, Kewaskum Fire Fighters Association
PUBLIC COMMENTS – No comments

Trustee Knoebel motioned to adjourn meeting at 8:22 p.m., Trustee Severance seconded, voice vote, motion carried.

Tammy Butz
Clerk/Deputy Treasurer
5-14 WNAXLP

Kewaskum Village Board
Special Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2020, 7:00 PM

The Kewaskum Village Board, Washington County, Wisconsin met in special session via video conference.

President Scheunemann called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present were Richard Laubach, Sarah Severance, Dave Spenner, Jim Wright, Jim Hovland, Richard Knoebel and Kevin Scheunemann. Staff members present were Administrator Matt Heiser, DPW Working Foreman Dennis Aupperle, Police Chief Tom Bishop, Fire Chief Mark Groeschel, Library Director Lori Kreis and Clerk Tammy Butz. Village Attorney James Danaher, Washington

Ozaukee Public Health Director Kirsten Johnson, members from the community and the news media were also present.

Notice of the meeting had been posted at PNC Bank, Kewaskum Post Office and at the Municipal Building on Friday, April 24, 2020. Notice was also forwarded to the Village Board, Village Attorney and the news media.

President Scheunemann opened the meeting with a summary of the purpose of this meeting; to rescind Ordinance 20-04 and 20-05 which provides the Police Department authority to enforce Executive Order #28. President Scheunemann then deferred to Village Attorney James Danaher, to be followed by Washington Ozaukee Public Health Officer/Director Kirsten Johnson.

Village Attorney James Danaher provided a summary of the memo sent to Village Board Members and Administrative Heiser on April 27, 2020.

•Attorney Danaher, along with Attorney Ritchie, researched the Executive Order #28 for a response to the Village of Kewaskum
•It appears that the DHS failed to follow the statutory requirements for promulgating a rule or emergency rule under State Statutes Chapter 227; therefore, Attorney Danaher believes the order is not a valid order or rule

•Emergency Order #28 appears to give permission to enforce but does not mandate enforcement. In addition, State Statute 252.03 states if local authorities fail to enforce, the state may step in.

•The Village would not be liable if it chooses not to enforce or to enforce Emergency Order #28; if we choose not to enforce we should rescind the Ordinance 20-04 and 20-05 amendments

•If Village chooses to not enforce Emergency Order #28, it should not make any representation as to whether or not businesses may open, gathering of people, etc. as that decision should be left to an individual business or person

Washington Ozaukee Public Health Officer/Director Kirsten Johnson stated that there are 96 cases and 4 deaths in Washington County due to COVID-19. A blueprint for opening Washington/Ozaukee Counties has been posted to their website with details for businesses to consider.

Other significant resources are available on their website. President Scheunemann stated he voted to approve Ordinance 20-04 and 20-05; but at that time the intent was to flatten the curve and not overwhelm the healthcare system. Over the last 27 days, Kewaskum has not had any confirmed cases of COVID-19 and that we have met the standard of lowering cases for 14 consecutive days. Kirsten advised that this testing has been limited and is not representative of the whole population. If Village chooses to open, we would not be able to contain COVID-19 as people would be coming in from other places. We need to weigh public health with our economy. We do not want to open and then shut down again. Trustee Knoebel asked if Kirsten seen the Hartford plan with opening up on May 11th; it seemed comprehensive. Kirsten stated it came out this afternoon. Discussion ensued on the Hartford and County plans for re-opening. Police Chief Tom Bishop stated at this point, we are close to decision being made by the state. If we change now, we may need to put it back in place. In addition, we would need clear guidelines on who can do what. Given the short time, although critical to some businesses, he believes we should wait for the state decision.

President Scheunemann opened up for public comment, no comments.
Motion by Trustee Wright to rescind Ordinance 20-04 and 20-05, seconded by President Scheunemann, motion failed by roll call vote: Hovland – nay, Wright – aye, Severance – nay, Laubach – nay, Knoebel – nay, Spenner – nay, Scheunemann – aye (2-5).
Administrator Matt Heiser advised that Item C was on the agenda in case Item B was approved. Trustee Knoebel suggested to revisit this after May 11th as we may have better direction.

Trustee Wright motioned to adjourn at 8:09 p.m., seconded by Hovland, motion carried by roll call vote: Hovland – aye, Wright – aye, Severance – aye, Laubach – aye, Knoebel – aye, Spenner – aye, Scheunemann – aye (7-0).

Tammy Butz
Clerk/Deputy Treasurer
5-14 WNAXLP



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Jennifer Melzark, Director, 19 years experience

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Gov. Evers Announces Best Practices And Safety Guidelines For Wisconsin Businesses

Gov. Tony Evers recently announced that businesses looking to keep workers, customers, and families safe while "turning the dial" toward reopening can now draw on a series of publications to keep them informed of best practices and safety tips.

The brochures include general guidelines for all businesses to follow as well as industry-specific advice, such as for restaurants, retailers, manufacturers, professional offices, farmers, manufacturers, builders, hotel and motel operators, barbers, personal care services and other fields.

"Wisconsin businesses have done a great job in adapting to our state's Safer at Home order," Gov. Evers said. "As we begin to 'turn the dial,' they need to know how to reopen safely so that employees and customers can feel confident when they return."

The guides were developed by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) in consultation with the Departments of Health Services, Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, and Tourism, as well as and industry experts and associations.

"What these guides really aim to do is provide actionable advice for businesses, espe-

cially small businesses, as they begin the road back to reopening," said WEDC secretary and CEO Missy Hughes. "The guides answer basic questions, such as how to handle transactions at cash registers, what to do about merchandise that's been handled by customers, and how to set up an office using social distancing strategies."

Some of the general advice for businesses includes:

- Making sure that employees who are sick don't come to work

- Curtailing business travel whenever possible.

- Promoting telecommuting or other work-from-home arrangements

- Making sure employees have access to sanitizers and personal protective equipment when appropriate.

Gov. Evers said the reopening of state businesses will continue to be guided by the health care metrics contained in the Badger Bounce Back plan, which include tracking new cases of COVID-19, assessing available medical resources to cope with COVID cases, and ensuring adequate testing and mitigation resources.

Copies of the guide will be available on the WEDC website at: <https://wedc.org/reopen-guidelines>.

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FEATURE BUSINESS OF THE WEEK



Little Folks School House

Little Folks School House is owned by Dodie Sargent. She brings 36 years of experience, receiving her training at U.N.H. and UW-Milwaukee. The Assistant Director, Jennifer Melzark has 19 years in the field and received her training at Marian College. Along with Dodie and Jennifer are 23 employees.

Little Folks is rated 5 stars by the Wisconsin Youngstar program and Nationally Accredited. The majority of the teachers have

two or four year degrees and are dedicated to providing quality childcare.

Dodie provided licensed family childcare from 1983-1997 and opened the group center (Little Folks School House) in 1997 in the Town of Wayne. After outgrowing the Wayne building, they built a bigger center in Kewaskum which opened in 2006. There are five classrooms, three age separated fenced playgrounds, a coded secured entry and camera monitored classrooms. They also provide before and after school care at Little Folks and Kewaskum Elementary School. Little Folks also serves as a teaching center for Moraine Park Technical College. Students are placed with them every semester for their practicum experience where the Little Folks teachers mentor them.

Little Folks strives to form working partnerships with families. They respect the parent's insights and concerns and want them to feel comfortable leaving their children in their care, knowing they will be safe and nurtured as they help to develop and grow.

Check us out at www.littlefolksschoolhouse.com or call 626-4023 to schedule a tour.

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continued from page 9

Business Owners Share Their Views On Shutdown



Mike Otten and Doug Gonring of West Bend Elevator talk with Rep. Timothy Ramthun on a video about how the Safer At Home order has affected businesses across the state.

photo submitted

Mike Otten and Doug Gonring, West Bend Elevator

West Bend Elevator is a family business that has been in operation for over 70 years.

"We have really diversified into different things to make ourselves a general store. So we're happy that we were essential so we could stay open and keep our employees employed. Disappointed that our state isn't open at this point in time," said Doug Gonring, vice president of West Bend Elevator.

When the pandemic first started, West Bend Elevator changed the way it interacted with customers.

"Initially it was quite a shock to all and we were very proactive on how we did business," explained Mike Otten, president of West Bend Elevator.

Initially, the business offered car-side service only. Customers are now allowed in the building, Otten said.

"Once the door was opened, we've given that choice to the customer," Gonring explained.

If a customer has a compromised health situation, then they are served at their car.

The business is also trying to help meet the customers' financial needs.

"Our nutritionists are constantly changing formulas and the farm's ration just to try and make it less expensive so they can meet it on their end," Otten said.

When Ramthun asked the two what they would like to see happen, Gonring answered right away that he wants to see the state open back up.

"I want the health care workers back at work. I want people to feel safe in our own state. This is ridiculous in my opinion to continue to wait this thing out," Gonring said. "It's not just the COVID-19 patient; it's every patient. Every person should be essential out there."

"We're all essential," Otten agreed.

Mike Kunkel, Kettle Moraine Town & Country

"A lot of sweat equity went into here. I quit my job five months before opening. All of us, my wife included, spent most of our days and nights down here for five months," said Mike Kunkel, owner of Kettle Moraine Town & Country in Kewaskum.

Now the business has had to make decisions about how to handle the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The first decision was what do we do with our employees. We had to let them go. We had to lay off," Kunkel said.

Now employees have been brought back for at least eight weeks, he added.

"We will see where we go from there. Our customer count is down 25 percent," Kunkel said.

The business has asked customers to round up their change to donate to other local businesses, trying to help those who can't open up during this time.

Kunkel also has tried to keep the things at the business as normal as possible.

"We believe that the American people are intelligent, they understand what is going on. I don't need a red X to tell that six feet from my register is six feet. We let them decide," Kunkel said.

The response from customers has been positive.

"Everybody comes in here and goes, 'Wow, you guys are normal,'" Kunkel said. "It's nice to see normalcy somewhere."

Kunkel said that he feels that businesses in areas that don't have any cases of COVID-19 should be allowed to open.

"We need to open now for everybody here. The quality of life is just going to deteriorate, so I really feel that the effects of the virus will be worse than the virus,"

Kunkel told Ramthun in the recording.

Daryl Frey, Woodland Creek Supper Club

"The mortgages don't go away. The electric company doesn't go away. The gas company doesn't go away. They've got to get paid. And they want their money. And I don't blame them," said Daryl Frey, owner of Woodland Creek Supper Club.

So Frey opened his supper club for curbside pickup.

"I had to do the Friday and Saturday, which has been good, not great. But at least it's something," Frey said.

Frey has seen the business grow from 22 employees when he started to its current payroll of 33 employees.

"Every year we have done better. Last year was a record year for us," Frey said.

Frey worries that even if everything opens back



Mike Kunkel (right) shares his thoughts with Rep. Timothy Ramthun about how his business, Kettle Moraine Town & Country, has been impacted by the government's response to the COVID-19 health crisis.

photo submitted

up, his business will not be at 50 percent of what it was two months ago.

"Will I be able to make it? I don't know. I would probably have to lay off some people. I'll have to take some cuts too," Frey said. "All the businesses out there, small or big. They're all taking a beating."

Ramthun asked Frey if there is anything specific he would need to help his business recover.

Frey said he does not think the answer is for the government to hand out money.

"Everyone talks about free money. Nothing is free in this world. That money comes from everybody that pays taxes. So it's not free. So even if I get it, I'm hurting somebody else. To dole out more money is not the answer either. We just have to do something to get this country back going. Open everything back

up; slowly it will come back," Frey said.

Dan Stoffel, Stoffel Farms

Dan Stoffel farms in the Town of Kewaskum with two brothers.

"We used to be a dairy farm and a beef farm, but as we are slowly retiring, we moved into just cash crops," Stoffel said.

Crops, hogs, cattle and milk are all down between 20 and 30 percent between February 15 and today, according to Stoffel.

"People were running on thin margins before. They are running on negative margins right now on virtually all those commodities," Stoffel said.

Dairy cattle still have to be milked. Hogs are still being produced.

"So the pipeline is full because it was business as usual, and it's really virtually impossible to stop that pipeline. It's very ironic that we have

people in food lines and we're dumping milk," Stoffel said.

The farming industry had been difficult even before the COVID-19 crisis hit.

"The last few years in the dairy industry in Wisconsin have been devastating just in the number of bankruptcies and people who have sold out and gotten out of the business," Stoffel said.

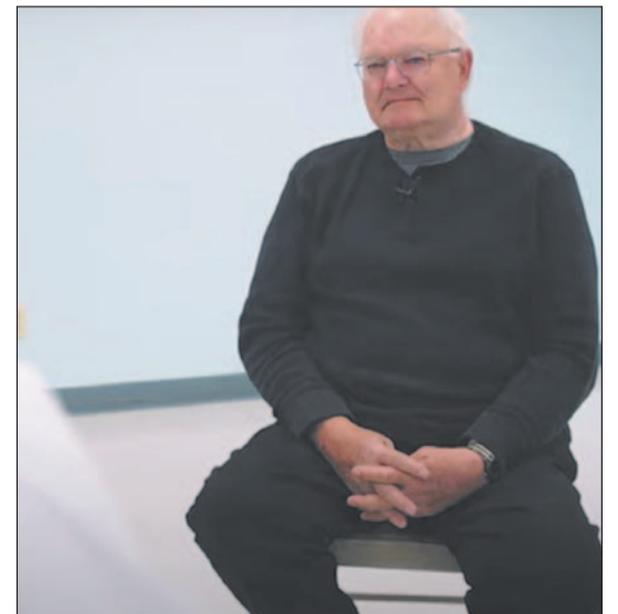
Stoffel worries that the COVID-19 crisis is simply going to make matters worse.

"People just have never had to deal with the issue in the United States of not having food on the shelves. It may have been that certain people can't afford to buy it, but the food was always there. And I do not look forward to a day when that isn't the status quo in the United States," Stoffel said.



Daryl Frey, owner of Woodland Creek Supper Club, talks about how he has tried to keep his business alive by offering curbside pickup.

photo submitted



Dan Stoffel talks with Rep. Timothy Ramthun on a video about how farming has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Take the Hassle Out Of Watering Container Gardens

MELINDA MYERS

Growing flowers and vegetables in containers will allow you to expand planting space, grow plants right outside your door and elevate them for easier access and maintenance. Unlike growing in the ground, the smaller volume of soil in containers is exposed to heat and wind, so requires frequent, often daily, watering.

Don't let this watering schedule discourage you from growing in pots. Enlist one or more of these strategies to eliminate the daily burden of watering while still maintaining beautiful and productive gardens.

Grow plants in large plastic, glazed or other

less breathable material to extend the time between watering. The larger the pot and less breathable the container material, the longer the soil stays moist. Small pots made of breathable materials, like unglazed terra cotta, dry out more quickly.

No matter the size and type of container used, monitor and adjust your watering schedule based on weather, number of plants in the pot and size of the plants. The more plants used and the larger the plants grow, the more water needed; so, frequency will increase over time.

Use self-watering pots to extend the time between watering. Fill the reservoir in these

containers as needed. The water moves from the reservoir to the soil where it is needed. This extends the time between watering. As your new plantings grow, you will need to fill the reservoir more frequently.

Use a quality potting mix that holds moisture and is well draining to avoid waterlogged soils that can lead to root rot. Most potting mixes contain peat moss, compost or bark to hold moisture. Vermiculite, perlite or rice hulls are used to provide drainage.

Add a long-lasting sustainable, water saving product, like wool pellets (wildvalley-farms.com), to your potting mix. This organic product is made from

belly wool and tags that cannot be used for clothing. The pellets promote healthier growth, increase soil aeration and reduce watering frequency by as much as 25%.

Mulch the soil surface in newly planted container gardens. This common garden practice is often overlooked when growing in containers. Cover the soil surface with shredded leaves, evergreen needles or other organic material. This helps conserve moisture until plants grow and shade the soil.

Automate watering with one of the many commercial or DIY container irrigation systems. These are designed to provide water to each in-

dividual pot with the turn of the faucet. Attach the irrigation system to the faucet, attach a timer and watering becomes a breeze. Regularly check the system to make sure the lines that deliver water to the pot are intact and the watering frequency is adjusted throughout the growing season as needed.

Enlist one or more of these strategies to make container gardening a manageable growing system. Once you eliminate the inconvenience of daily watering you may just find yourself planting more container gardens each season.

Protect Your Skin When Gardening

MELINDA MYERS

May is National Skin Cancer Awareness Month and a busy time for gardening and other outdoor activities. Gardening provides many benefits but like any outdoor activity it's important to protect yourself from the sun's damaging rays.

More than five million cases of skin cancer are diagnosed each year and most are associated with exposure to the ultraviolet rays from the sun. And even though it's the most common form of cancer in the U.S. it is also one of the most preventable. Help reduce this percentage and keep yourself and others safe with a bit of skin cancer prevention.

Use sunscreen year-round. It is easy to overlook during those extremely cold or hot months where we may be bundled up or spending minimal time outdoors. In fact, running errands and even time spent in the car results in

sun exposure.

Apply a sunscreen with UVA/UVB protection and a minimum SPF of 30 over your entire body at least 30 minutes before going outdoors. This includes cloudy days when we often forego this precaution. Reapply sunscreen every two hours or after swimming or excessive sweating. Pay close attention and make a generous application to lips, tips of ears, and the backs of your neck and hands.

Keep a bottle of sunscreen in your garden tool kit as a reminder to apply throughout the day. If it's easily accessible, you are more likely to apply it as needed.

Avoid gardening and outdoor activities when the sun is most intense. This is usually between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Find those shady spots in the

landscape to weed or relax during that time. Avoiding the intense sunlight means cooler temperatures that make working in the garden more enjoyable.

Cover up for greater protection. Wear a broad brimmed hat to protect your ears, scalp, neck and face from the sun. Don clothing of tightly woven fabric that helps block harmful UV rays. And talk to your dermatologist about the benefits of investing in photoprotective clothing.

Be sure to include gloves when purchasing sun protective clothing. Look for knit gloves like Foxgloves (foxglovesinc.com) that provide 50+ UPF, Ultraviolet Protection Factor. These gloves are made of lightweight, breathable fabric and come in a variety of colors, including skin

tone, making them easy to wear when working, driving or participating in any outdoor activity.

And don't forget about your eyes. Wear sunglasses and a broad brimmed hat to protect your eyes when gardening, relaxing or recreating outdoors.

Check your skin regularly for any suspicious moles, spots, growths and changes. And visit your dermatologist at

least once a year. They can help you detect and manage problems early.

As you work to improve your landscape or do other outdoor activities this season, add sun protection to your to-do list. Then encourage your family and friends to do the same. A bit of prevention can reduce your risk of becoming that one individual in five that develops skin cancer by the age of 70.

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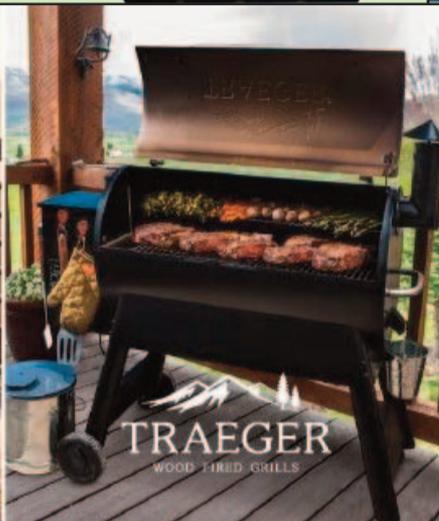
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