



GREETINGS FROM THE PAST

Decorated with unidentified photographs, the entryway of the Wittenberg Area Historical Society museum is filled with the likenesses of those who came before us, welcoming us to take a step back in time with them. The museum is open one last date this year, Sept. 20 from 1-4 p.m., or by appointment by calling 715-881-0326. The museum is located at 502 Summit Ave., Wittenberg.

MIRIAM NELSON | NEW MEDIA

Ho-Chunk gives \$10K to Homme Home for bus

Homme Home plans to put the large donation from Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg toward the purchase of a handicap-accessible bus.

PAGE 2

Out with the old ambulance, dated equipment

WAFAPS seeks to upgrade equipment and vehicles over the next five years.

PAGE 3

Witt-Birn ready for cross country

The boys and girls teams have talented runners back this fall to lead the way.

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Ho-Chunk donates \$10K to Homme



Meeting by the Homme bell, a symbol of communication for the community, was a perfect place for Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg to donate \$10,000 from their "Coins For A Cause" fundraiser to Homme Home at 604 S. Webb St., Wittenberg. Ho-Chunk representatives from left are Tracy Pecore, Hodazha-maniwinga Pidgeon, Fletcher Collins and Homme representative Kathy Unverzagt and Justin Cieslewicz.

MIRIAM NELSON | NEW MEDIA

Coins for a Cause fundraiser benefits both organizations

By **MIRIAM NELSON**

News Editor

A creative fundraiser held last month at Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg brought in not only some much-needed coins to the casino, it also helped raise needed funds for Homme Home.

During the pandemic, shoppers have been encouraged to use debit or credit cards instead of currency to help reduce the spread of germs. The resulting coin shortage has been a problem for the casino, said Tracy Pecore, director of marketing at Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg. She said that when customers were cashing out their winnings, the casino was running out of nickles and dimes.

Thus the idea for Coins for a Cause was born. Visitors to the casino were invited to bring in their spare change in exchange for Rewards Play coupons to be used at the casino. Hodazha-maniwinga Pidgeon, senior manager of public relations, said the casino's goal was to raise \$5,000 in coins and match that amount, for a total donation of \$10,000 to Homme Home.

"We started the program on July 20, and by the 31st we had exceeded

our goal," said Pidgeon.

Pecore noted that visitors to the casino are not allowed to smoke. They must have a temperature check, wear a mask and adhere to other safety protocols within the casino. She said it seemed like a good idea to reward their guests for bringing in their spare change.

"It was really a win, win, win situation," said Pecore. "We replenished our coin supply. Our customers enjoyed more play options, and we were able to give Homme Home a nice donation."

Donations are always appreciated at Homme Home, a nonprofit organization that provides memory care housing, assisted living and skilled nursing accommodations at 604 S. Webb St., Wittenberg. According to Executive Director Justin Cieslewicz, most of the care for residents is funded through Medicaid and Family Care, though neither program pays full price for the services offered. The Ho-Chunk donation will go toward purchasing a bus to transport residents around the area. The home's current 1984 model handicap-accessible van has many issues and is becoming too costly to repair, he said.

"A new bus will cost about \$100,000, and this donation is a big chunk towards our goal," said Cieslewicz.

"We're excited to be working towards our goal for a new bus, thanks to the help from Ho-Chunk," added Kathy Unverzagt, Homme executive assistant and foundation coordinator who oversees fundraisers.

In the past, residents have been able to travel for events like the Festival of Lights in Wausau, theater productions at the Mielke in Shawano or a trip to the NEW Zoo in Green Bay, noted Unverzagt. Even just a trip to see the fall colors or go for ice cream is a special treat for residents, said Unverzagt.

Fletcher Collins, executive manager at Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg, said that each of the five locations that make up the Ho-Chunk Nation in Wisconsin has the ability to create its own events and determine where in the community to make donations.

"Homme is a big part of our community, and it is an honor and a privilege to be able to give back to an organization that serves our community so well," said Collins.

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Rescue service needs equipment and vehicles

\$160K ambulance purchase is top priority

By **MIRIAM NELSON**
News Editor

Representatives from the village and town of Wittenberg listened to a presentation addressing the need for vehicles and equipment at the Aug. 12 annual meeting of the Wittenberg Area Fire/Ambulance Protective Service.

The rescue service has two ambulances that are in poor condition and need to be replaced, according to Laurie Zeil, ambulance director. Med 1 is a 2009 vehicle that has already had about \$4,000 worth of repairs done this year and is in need of at least \$4,000 more, she said. Med 2 is a 2010 vehicle and in better shape than Med 1, but it is starting to show its age.

Fire Chief Brian Hamm and As-

sistant Fire Chief Mark Karp have located a new demonstrator ambulance from a local dealer selling for \$160,000. Hamm noted that a new ambulance would cost more than \$200,000.

The ambulance is a 2017 vehicle with only 4,000 miles on it. It has a power cart for lifting gurneys in and out of the vehicle, which would reduce the risk of injury to both patient and crew, said Zeil. The vehicle also has a 100,000-mile warranty; the purchase cost would include the expense of changing out the decals, Karp noted.

Karp presented three different terms for financing through a company that specializes in loans for municipal vehicles. He and Hamm also offered to look into other options for financing, including the local banks.

President Dawn Chuilli proposed the WAFAPS would contribute \$40,000 toward the purchase of the ambulance if the town and village could commit to contributing \$25,000 each and be willing to co-sign for a loan for the remaining \$70,000.

Wittenberg Village Board President William Switalla and Wittenberg Town Board Chairman Dick Beversdorf agreed to bring the proposal for a vote at their next board meetings, and both felt confident the vote would pass.

Chuilli also presented a list of future apparatus and equipment needs for the fire department. The brush truck, tanker and engine are all reaching their age limit of 15 to 20 years, and parts are no longer available to make major repairs. The air compressor and fill station barely passed the air quality testing last year, and they are awaiting the results of this year's test results. Air

bottles and air packs are an older style and do not have the safety features of the newer models.

Rather than discuss the list at the annual meeting, Chuilli appointed a task force to come up with a plan on how to prioritize and finance the list of needed equipment. Zeil, Hamm, Karp and Greg Bunker from the WAFAPS will meet with town supervisor Justin Hartleben and village trustee Paul Yaeger. The plan is expected to be presented at the September meeting.

The WAFAPS is an independent nonprofit, partially funded by the village and the town of Wittenberg. Additionally, they hold contracts to service the Town of Franzen and the village of Elderon to provide both fire and ambulance service. They also contract with the Town of Morris for fire service and the Town of Almon to provide ambulance service.

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President visits Oshkosh

Several Shawano residents were among the 1,000 or so people in attendance when President Donald Trump visited Oshkosh on Monday. Trump appeared at Wittman Regional Airport during a campaign tour that included Wisconsin and Minnesota.

RICHARD KUCKSDORF



COURT NEWS

Recent proceedings in Shawano-Menominee County Circuit Court:

- Jennifer E. Moon, 36, of Wisconsin Rapids, was charged Aug. 17 with felony counts of possession of methamphetamine and narcotic drugs and bail jumping.

She could face a maximum six years in prison and \$10,000 fine on the bail jumping charge if convicted and 3 1/2 years and a \$10,000 fine on each of the drug counts.

Moon posted a \$1,000 cash bond set by Judge Thomas Grover and is due back in court for an adjourned initial appearance on Aug. 31.

- Hunter K. Moy, 21, of New Lon-

don, was charged Aug. 14 with felony counts of possession of methamphetamine and second or subsequent possession of marijuana and five felony counts of bail jumping.

She could face a maximum six years in prison and \$10,000 fine on each of the bail jumping counts if convicted and 3 1/2 years and a \$10,000 fine on each of the drug counts.

Moy posted a \$2,000 cash bond set by Judge William Kussel Jr. and is due back in court for an adjourned initial appearance on Sept. 8.

- Kayla M. Childs, 32, of Shawano, was charged Aug. 14 with a felony

count of possession of methamphetamine. She could face a maximum 3 1/2 years in prison and \$10,000 fine if convicted. Childs was ordered held on a \$5,000 cash bond set by Judge William Kussel Jr. and was scheduled for an adjourned initial court appearance Sept. 8.

- Matthew C. Malone, 37, of Bowler, was charged Aug. 13 with two felony counts of strangulation and suffocation, along with misdemeanor counts of domestic abuse-related battery and disorderly conduct.

He could face a maximum six years in prison and \$10,000 fine on each of the felony counts if con-

victed. Malone was ordered held on a \$3,500 cash bond set by Judge William Kussel Jr. and was scheduled for an adjourned initial court appearance on Aug. 24.

- Mico J. Miller, 26, of Katy, Texas, was charged Aug. 12 with a felony count of theft by false representation in connection with an alleged black-topping scam.

He could face a maximum six years in prison and \$10,000 fine if convicted.

Miller posted a \$10,000 cash bond set by Judge Thomas Grover and was due back in court for an adjourned initial appearance on Sept. 14.

PUBLIC RECORD

SHAWANO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Aug. 17

Deputies logged 35 incidents, including disturbances on Lake Wagner Road and Schoenrock Lake Road in the Town of Belle Plaine and Ho Chunk Road in the Town of Wittenberg; harassment on Kolpack Road in the Town of Almon.

Aug. 16

Deputies logged 34 incidents, including property theft complaints on state Highway 47-55 and Old Keshena Road in the Town of Wescott; injury accidents on state Highway 29 in the Town of Waukechon; and state Highway 117 in the Town of Hartland; criminal damage to property on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott.

Aug. 15

Deputies logged 44 incidents, including a 37-year-old Bowler man arrested for operating while intoxicated on U.S. Highway 45 in Birnamwood; a

31-year-old Krakow woman arrested for battery after a disturbance on Julius Street in the Town of Angelica; criminal damage to property on Homewood Avenue in the Town of Wescott;

A 58-year-old Birnamwood man cited for operating after revocation and arrested for bail jumping on U.S. Highway 45 in Birnamwood; a disturbance on U.S. Highway 45 in Tigerton; disorderly conduct on Granite Street in Tigerton; a drug complaint on state Highway 29 in the Town of Herman; a property theft on Mill Street in Wittenberg.

Aug. 14

Deputies logged 39 incidents, including a 36-year-old Wisconsin Rapids woman arrested for possession of methamphetamine, marijuana and drug paraphernalia on U.S. Highway 45 in the Town of Wittenberg; an injury accident on Beech Street in Tigerton; trespassing on Lake Drive in the Town of Wescott; harassment on Gator Lane in Cecil.

SHAWANO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Aug. 17

Police logged 20 incidents, including disturbances in the 300 block of South Sawyer Street and 400 block of West Picnic Street; a weapon offense involving a knife in the 1100 block of Waukechon Street; a 23-year-old man cited for operating after revocation at Lincoln and Zingler streets.

Aug. 16

Police logged 19 incidents, including a two-vehicle property damage accident at Randall and Lincoln streets; a 20-year-old Bowler man arrested for an outstanding warrant at Lakeland Road and Richmond Street; a burglary in the 800 block of West Picnic Street; A 49-year-old Shawano man arrested for disorderly conduct/domestic violence and a 47-year-old Shawano woman arrested for bail jumping after a domestic disturbance in the 200 block of North Airport Drive.

Aug. 15

Police logged 16 incidents, including a disturbance in the 400 block of West Third Street; a shoplifting complaint at Walmart, 1244 E. Green Bay St.

Aug. 14

Police logged 19 incidents, including a vehicle reported stolen in the 1100 block of East Richmond Street; property theft complaints in the 1000 block of East Green Bay Street and 200 block of Riverside Drive; disorderly conduct in the 300 block of Tristan Drive; a 23-year-old Keshena man arrested for operating while intoxicated at Washington Street and Wescott Avenue.

Aug. 13

Police logged 32 incidents, including an intoxicated person in the 200 block of South Sawyer Street; an assault complaint in the 400 block of South Lincoln Street; a bike reported stolen in the 200 block of North Riverside Drive; a burglary at the Wisconsin House, 216 E. Green Bay St.

Wittenberg-Birnamwood is ready for the students to return

The start of the 2020-2021 school year is fast approaching. As I write this newsletter in early August, each passing day gives me more confidence that our classrooms and buildings will be ready by Sept. 1. Our trade contractors have been working both weekdays and weekends to meet their deadlines for construction work, and district staff have supported this plan with great flexibility in assisting where and when they can. We look forward to showcasing our renovated and new construction to all community members after our students have returned and settled into their school routines.

Speaking of returning and settling in, I encourage all of our community members to please continue visiting our district reopening plan posted at the top of



GARRETT ROGOWSKI

our Wittenberg-Birnamwood Facebook page and also on our district website. We also have a very helpful Frequently Asked Questions document posted on both sites that provides our families with answers to many of the questions we continue to receive on a daily basis. Additionally this year, we are for the first time providing families with an online option that they may choose for their children that requires a semester by semester commitment. And for those who choose to return in the more traditional school setting, we have been working to adhere

to COVID-19 related mandates and safety precautions that will help provide our students and staff with the safest environment possible.

We understand that there are many scenarios that could play out as we move forward into the start of and throughout the school year. We have prepared our staff to better support our students in the event we have to move to a more virtual format. We certainly have navigated ourselves into uncharted territory, but I am optimistic that our students in this district will continue to receive excellent instruction from an amazing staff.

We're excited for the opportunity to be back with our students. I encourage all of our parents to please read through their building-specific newsletters which will highlight some of the schedule

changes we have made for the new school year, our Professional Learning Community work, COVID-19 related steps we can all be taking to keep ourselves safe and healthy and anything else you need to know as our children prepare to embark on the start of a new and exciting 2020-21 school year.

In closing, I can't express enough the sincere gratitude we have for all who have supported our intentions to get school back up and running for the students of this district. These are memorable, cherished times that our students look forward to and deserve to look back on with positive memories for years to come. Whatever we can do to support this goal, we will.

Garrett Rogowski is the superintendent of the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District.

Members sought for farm to school council

Wisconsin advisory board seeking nominations through Aug. 30

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is now accepting nominations for three seats on the Wisconsin Farm to School Advisory Council, a group that helps guide the development of the state's Farm to School program.

Nominations are due Aug. 30. The three openings include seats representing: farmers, child health organizations, or "at large" representatives. Members serve 3-year terms, and the council meets quarterly.

Nomination materials, including the application form, are available online at https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Growing_WI/FarmToSchool.aspx

Applicants should provide an explanation of why nominees would be valuable additions to the council and include two letters of support. Completed applications should be sent to Wisconsin Farm to School Coordinator April Yancer at april.yancer@wi.gov.

Nominees will be evaluated by a committee and approved by the DATCP Secretary-designee and board. New members will be seated

at the October 2020 Farm to School Advisory Council meeting.

The Wisconsin Farm to School Advisory Council provides guidance to the governor, DATCP, the Wisconsin Legislature, and other state and federal agencies about ways to promote the health of Wisconsin children, farms, and communities by connecting schools to local farms that supply nutritious, fresh, and minimally processed foods.

The council represents a variety of perspectives on Wisconsin's Farm to School spectrum. Membership varies between 11-15 members, and includes:

- Three child health representatives
- Two school food service personnel
- The Wisconsin School Nutrition Association president
- One or more farmers
- Three organizations supporting agriculture (schools, education, and nutrition); and
- At-large members representing agriculture, economic development, youth, and students.

Service with a smile!



Kristy Roth, bartender at Xena's Village Inn in Wittenberg took a picture of her smile and added it to the front of her mask to let her customers know that she's glad to see them. Keeping a good sense of humor is a great way to deal with the pandemic.

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Traveling the world in my own backyard

I had an errand to run to the golf course and, as is my nature, I started up a conversation with a couple at the bar.

They were from West Allis and were here for a vacation, a chance to get out of the city. They were renting a place in Tilleda that they had found through an online website and were just hanging out, enjoying nature and a round of golf. Of course it fills me with great pride when tourists bring up the fact they also came to see the Walls of Wittenberg, before I can even slip the suggestion into the conversation.

I had to admit I'd never spent any time in Tilleda, but they made it sound so inviting that I can't wait to take a little trip there for myself. I



MIRIAM NELSON

they were, but at least I plan to put Tilleda on my bucket list.

It was such a pleasure to see our world through their eyes. We're pretty lucky to get people from larger cities to come enjoy our corner of the world. In a way, I suppose we're benefiting a bit from the pandemic.

used to laugh at the people in the Twin Cities area who would brag that they'd never set foot in the Mall of America, even though it's basically in their own backyard. Apparently I'm no better than

I would imagine people are taking more in-state trips, deeming it safer than traveling to other states that have a higher risk.

A few years ago, some friends of mine rented a recreational vehicle and spent six months traveling through the United States, absorbing all the sites and homeschooling their children. I thought about how fun it would be to be able to enjoy that kind of lifestyle. I wonder if other families started a similar adventure this year, only to be brought to an abrupt stop due to the pandemic, wild fires, flooding and all the other catastrophes that have overpowered our nation.

I find I have a little anxiety every time I see the daily results of positive

COVID-19 tests in Shawano County but then, oddly enough, take comfort that the count is about a fourth of the number of cases in Marathon County. I suppose it will seem more real once there is someone I know attached to a statistic. Should we be optimistic that our numbers are lower compared to the hot spots in the nation? Or should we be cautious and vigilant in our washing hands and masking and social distancing?

I do know that once this pandemic is over I'm going to want to travel again. But for now, I've got my eyes set on Tilleda!

Miriam Nelson is the news editor of the Wittenberg Enterprise & Birnamwood News. Readers can contact her at mnelson@newmedia-wi.com.

Final touches for the summer long project



Sienna Glen maple trees, which will turn red in the fall, were planted along Webb Street in Wittenberg signaling the near end of the reconstruction project that has been many years in the making. Grass seed was planted, and the environmental cover will help promote quick growth and prevent erosion. One final layer of asphalt will provide the finishing touch for the road.

MIRIAM NELSON | NEW MEDIA

Tomato diseases target local gardens

By **SCOTT REUSS**

The two most popular home garden vegetables are tomato and potato. Being close cousins, both get some of the same diseases, and those diseases are causing problems in many area gardens right now.

The two most common diseases of tomato are Septoria Leaf Spot and Early Blight. Although caused by different fungal species, the two diseases are able to be managed with the same techniques, as the disease cycles are the same. Both diseases can be very severe in tomatoes, and Early Blight is very common and can be very bad on potatoes. Additionally, the diseases can impact eggplant and peppers, but are usually not serious on those plants.

Home gardeners really dislike these two diseases. They can turn a lush tomato patch, or even just one or two plants, into standing skeletons that have very few leaves and smaller, lower quality fruit. Both are caused by fungal pathogens that overwinter on plant debris. Thus, one of the primary management methods is to thoroughly remove debris from last year's tomato family plants, especially if you had any of the diseases present. The plant debris can overwinter on the soil, in the upper layers of soil, or on trellises and tomato cages.

During warm, humid weather conditions, last year's infected plant material forms spores on the lesions and these spores can then get moved to this year's growing plants. The spores usually need to get splashed up onto leaves, or have leaves come in contact with the soil. Again, this leads to management opportunities. By having consistent mulch layers under your plants and using trellises or similar to keep the vines off the ground, you can often minimize or slow down the ability of the disease to get started.

Once disease gets started in a plant or in a stand of tomatoes, it will continue to move upward as raindrops or irrigation droplets splash the spores being produced on infected leaves up to the next layer of leaves and form new lesions. As lesions grow, they coalesce and lead to leaflets dying back, often leading to partial or complete defoliation of affected plants. The loss of photosynthetic



Septoria leaf spot advancing through a tomato leaf.

SCOTT REUSS



SCOTT REUSS

area lessens fruit yield and fruit quality, sometimes severely.

The two diseases are difficult to tell apart, but the lesions are slightly different. Septoria lesions start as small, circular lesions, usually having a lighter colored center, but otherwise darkly colored. Early blight lesions are larger, more irregularly shaped, and if you look closely you can usually see concentric rings within the lesion that make them look like bullseyes. Early blight can also directly infect the fruit, leading to sunken, brown areas on the stem end of the fruit and very low quality fruit, if they are able to be used, at all.

Fungicide use, staking/trellising and pruning, and rotation and weed control are other management opportunities. Along with mulching, you can use trellises, stakes and ties, or tomato cages to keep the tomato growth as vertical as possible and minimize soil contact to the leaves. Along with

this, pruning of lower leaves early in the season helps keep the spores from getting onto the plant. You may also be able to slow the disease down by pruning off leaves which are affected when the disease gets started, or entire plants if only one or two plants are infected.

Rotation can be difficult in smaller gardens and is impossible in containers. If possible, do not plant tomatoes where you had tomatoes, potatoes, eggplant, or peppers in the last two to three years. However, many weed species (nightshades, horse nettle, jimsonweed, and clammy groundcherry and other groundcherries) also harbor the disease, so you need to practice good weed control along with rotation to have this be at all effective. Good spacing also helps, so have more space between your tomato plants to get better air flow.

Fungicides can also be used, but the only active ingredients that work well and are readily available to home gardeners are chlorothalonil and mancozeb, along with copper fungicides if you want to use an organic option. You will need to reapply these products, as they will wash off with rain or irrigation events, and their efficacy wears out.

Depending on the conditions and active ingredient, you will want to reapply every 5-14 days.

Make sure that you read and follow the label directions carefully, especially for treatment intervals, if you decide to use any type of fungicide. Also, remember that fungicide applications need to be very thorough, as they are protective treatments. Think painting as an example. You need to have 100% leaf surface coverage for the fungicides to truly do their job of stopping spores from infecting new places or new leaves.

You can learn more about these diseases by reading the publication found at: <https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0145/8808/4272/files/A2606.pdf> and there is another, shorter version found at: https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/files/2014/11/Septoria-Leaf-Spot_0.pdf. You can find more pest management resources under the Horticulture - Plant Problems tab, including photos of these diseases, at <https://marinette.extension.wisc.edu/>

Contact Scott Reuss, agriculture & horticulture agent for Marinette and Oconto counties, at 715-732-7510 or scott.reuss@wisc.edu.

SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL CROSS-COUNTRY

Witt-Birn teams return talented runners this fall

Both teams have issues to overcome

By **MORGAN RODE**
Sports Editor

The Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School cross-country teams are up for the challenge that competing in the tough Central Wisconsin Conference brings, even though the boys and girls teams each face their own issues as the season nears.

The boys team must replace three senior runners from last year's team that placed second in the conference. The girls didn't qualify for a team score at last year's conference meet because they didn't have enough runners — and they might face the same obstacle this fall.

The boys team still returns some talented runners, including senior Wyatt Dickman, who represented the team at the state meet. He also was the team's top runner at the conference meet, placing third.

Also back for the boys team



Wittenberg-Birnamwood's Wyatt Dickman, left, and Ian Resch near the finish line at the 2019 Bonduel Invitational at the Navarino Nature Center in Shiocton. Dickman and Resch are both back in the mix for the boys team this fall.

FILE | NEW MEDIA

are seniors Ian Resch and Tommy Bruski, junior Simon Schairer and sophomores Craig Wendel and Mason Meverden. Bruski and Resch

were honorable mention finishers at the conference meet.

Other options to fill out the team are freshmen Ian Salvesson and

ONLINE

Read more fall sports previews at www.newmedia-wi.com

Nash Wojnowiak.

Coach Cathy Easker hopes the team's seniors and juniors can step into leadership roles this fall.

Like the boys team, there are three all-conference runners back from the girls team.

Leading the way for the girls will be junior Jenna Stone, a first-team all-conference finisher.

"My goal for this season is just to go out there and run my race, try my hardest and try and make everyone proud," said Stone, who also hopes to be a leader for the team and a supportive teammate.

Junior Ruby Nowinsky and sophomore Annika Resch are also back after earning spots on the CWC second team.

Lauren Dombeck, a senior this coming fall, was the team's other runner last season.

sports@newmedia-wi.com

Big Ten Conference postpones entire 2020-21 fall sports season

Sports could possibly be played next spring

The Big Ten Conference announced the postponement of the 2020-21 fall sports season, including all regular-season contests and Big Ten Championships and Tournaments, due to ongoing health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In making its decision, which was based on multiple factors, the Big Ten Conference relied on the medical advice and counsel of the Big Ten Task Force for Emerging Infectious Diseases and the Big Ten Sports Medicine Committee.

"Our primary responsibility is to make the best possible decisions in the interest of our students, faculty and staff," said Morton Schapiro, chairman of the Big Ten Council of Presidents/Chancellors and Northwestern University president.

"The mental and physical health and welfare of our student-athletes has been at the center of every decision we have made regarding the ability to proceed forward," said Big Ten Commissioner Kevin Warren. "As time progressed and after hours of discussion with our Big Ten Task Force for Emerging Infectious Diseases and the Big Ten Sports Medicine Committee, it became abundantly clear that there was too much uncertainty regarding potential medical risks to allow our student-athletes to compete this fall.

"We know how significant the student-athlete experience can be in shaping the future of the talented young women and men who compete in the Big Ten Conference. Although that knowledge made this a painstaking decision, it did not make it difficult.

"While I know our decision today (Aug. 11) will be disappointing in many ways for our thousands of

student-athletes and their families, I am heartened and inspired by their resilience, their insightful and discerning thoughts, and their participation through our conversations to this point. Everyone associated with the Big Ten Conference and its member institutions is committed to getting everyone back to competition as soon as it is safe to do so."

The fall sports included in this announcement are men's and women's cross-country, field hockey, football, men's and women's soccer and women's volleyball. The Big Ten Conference will continue to evaluate a number of options regarding these sports, including the possibility of competition in the spring. Decisions regarding winter and spring sports will also continue to be evaluated.

The Big Ten Conference is proud of its 14 world-class research institutions and has leveraged their resources and expertise to address this pandemic over the past five months.

The Big Ten Task Force for Emerging Infectious Diseases and the Big Ten Sports Medicine Committee have engaged in extensive research and sharing of materials and conversations with federal, state and local government agencies, and professional and international sports organizations in order to track and better understand the daily updates surrounding this pandemic. Their advice and counsel have been invaluable as they have worked tirelessly over the past several months in their efforts to create and maintain a safe environment for athletics.

The Big Ten Conference will continue to work with medical experts and governmental authorities to gather additional information, evaluate emerging data and technologies, and monitor developments regarding the pandemic to make the best decisions possible for the health, safety and wellness of our student-athletes.

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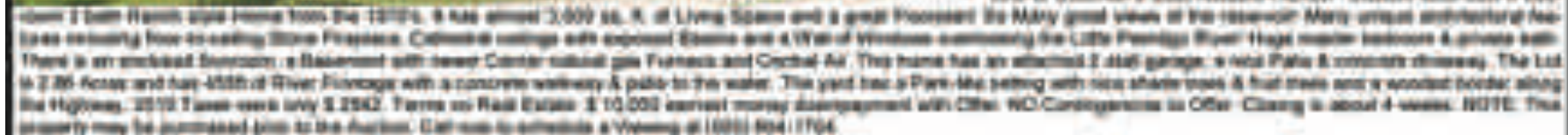
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A group of cleanup volunteers puts in their hand-powered watercraft below the dam near Gresham.

Volunteers clean up Red River

Participants float and paddle to collect trash

**Story and photos by
CAROL RYCZEK
Editor-in-chief**

They found cans, bottles, what appeared the casing for a drum and what looked like the tip of a missile or a remnant from a boat that should never have been on the Red River.

A group of about 30 volunteers spent Sunday afternoon cleaning trash from along the bottom and banks of the Red River in central Shawano County.

Jamie Besaw, Shawano, said about 30 people were expected for the second annual cleanup.

The cleanup began last year when Besaw was on the river with friends, and some property own-

ers along the Red helped them find a cell phone in the water. He said he was impressed that they helped the paddlers, even though they also have to pull a lot of trash left by boaters and inner-tube riders every year.

"That got me thinking that we should do something" about the trash, he said.

This year, the event expanded to include drawings and a cookout after the cleanup.

The effort started at the put-in below the Red Lake Dam just east of Gresham, and continued to "The Rock," a popular swimming hole in the Town of Richmond.

Participants were given garbage bags, and some brought their own long-handled grabbers. An empty

laundry detergent container was brought for needles and other sharp items.

Kelly Reyer, Oshkosh, who attended with her family, said this was her 29th waterway cleanup of the year. She is aiming at 50, in honor of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day.

"We value our waterways," she said. She is a member of the Fox/Wolf Watershed Alliance, one of the sponsors of the Red River cleanup.

Other sponsors for the cleanup included Dave Passehl (Thrivent), American Marine, Cornerstone Chiropractic, Anthony Feivor Insurance, Agent JamieB UnitedHealth, Home-town Insurance, Shawano Barbers, Maximus Salon, American Rivers National River Cleanup, Bobo's Detailing, Alec's Lawn and Snow Care, Charlie's County Market, Heins Appliance, Angie's Main Cafe and Big City Gyros.

WITTENBERG-BIRNAMWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION Regular Meeting August 24, 2020

6:30 p.m.: Annual Budget Hearing

7:00 p.m.: Annual Meeting

Regular Board Meeting High School Library following the Annual Meeting

AGENDA

1. Meeting called to order, pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.84(1).
2. Roll Call of the Board - Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
3. Motion to Approve the Minutes of the July 27, 2020 Regular Board Meeting as circulated.
4. Communications and Delegations
5. Public Comments
6. Board Concerns or Reports
7. Financial Report
8. Approve the Agenda
- I. The Board may adjourn to Closed Session at the close of the meeting pursuant to WI.STATS.1985(1) © for Personnel Matters, and 19.85(1)(g) for Legal Matters and 19.85(1)(e) for Negotiations.
- II. The Board will Reconvene to Open Session to ratify any decisions made in Closed Session.
- IX. Administrative Reports:
 - High School
 - B'wd Elem/MS
 - Witt Elem/MS
 - Pupil Services
 - Aquatic Center
- X. Old Business
 - None
- XI. New Business
 - Approve Property Insurance Renewal for 2020-2021
 - Approve Buildings and Grounds Purchase
 - Approve Bus Purchase(s)
 - Approve Teacher Retirement
 - Approve Teacher Hires
- XII. Adjournment

WNAXLP



Brenden Buenning, Tigerton, tosses garbage into a waiting pickup truck Sunday after spending two hours cleaning up the Red River in central Shawano County. Buenning was one of many county residents who came out to help with the river cleanup.



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