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Latest Local News

12-19-11 waupun house fire

The Waupun Fire department responded to a house fire on Sunday December 18th at 2:43 AM. The three occupants in the house were alerted by a dog and smoke detectors and were able to get out safely. The fire started in the area of the fireplace/chimney. The fire caused extensive damage to the house and contents. The fire burned through the first floor and into the roof. Firefighter had to use caution as the floor around the chimney had burned away and could of collapse form the weaken floor joist. Firefighters were able to bring the fire under control quickly but remained on scene for about 4 hours checking for extensions of the fire. Twenty five firefighters responded to the scene. Red Cross was contacted to help out the family. The occupant was a Kenneth Rozewicz and his two sons age 6 and 15. The owner of the house is Dan Hendricks. Berry says the two boys escaped through windows and the father through the door with the dog. Aiding the fire department was the Waupun Police Department for traffic control. Waupun and Alliant Utilities were also called to the scene to disconnect the electric and gas.

12-19-11 shed fire

Nobody was injured in a shed fire in the town of Byron. Volunteer firefighters were called to the Brian Puls residence on Maple Lane last night. The shed and its contents are a total loss. A wood burning stove is believed to be the cause.

12-19-11 children in poverty

The director of a Wisconsin child advocacy group says new Census data shows that the rate of Wisconsin children living by poverty has risen four percent in the last three years. Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, Ken Taylor, says 47 Wisconsin counties including Fond du Lac experienced a significant increase in school aged children living in poverty. The Department of Public Instruction says the increase comes when the state budget included the largest cut to public education in state history and An across the board cut to categorical aid programs such as high poverty aid to districts, sparsity aid and transportation aid. Taylor says historically Wisconsin has been a top-tier state when it comes to child well-being. But he says the question is will that continue with the recent dramatic budget cuts.

12-19-11 hwy 23 lawsuit

The Director of a Madison based environmental group says the state is spending too much money on roads. The group, 1000 Friends of Wisconsin, filed a lawsuit last summer to delay a project to widen

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Highway 23 to four lanes between Plymouth and Fond du Lac. The group alleged that potential environmental impacts were not addressed and that there were not adequate public hearings. The group's director, Steve Hinicker, says alternatives were also not thoroughly explored. An agreement reached last month with the DOT stays the federal lawsuit and a new round of public hearings will be scheduled. Hinicker says in the bigger picture the state transportation fund does not have enough money to cover the spending the state is doing.

12-19 moran sentence

A former Fond du Lac Management Information Systems employee is going to jail. Fond du Lac Judge Gary Sharpe sentenced Ken Moran to 18 months in jail and five years probation. Moran was convicted of misconduct in office, theft in a business setting, and conspiracy to create a fraudulent writing. Moran is one of several former MIS employees convicted of using taxpayer money to purchase mostly electronics items for their personal use. The former MIS director Mark Beveridge is scheduled to go on trial at the end of February.

12-19-11 recycling electronics

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — The state Department of Natural Resources says Wisconsin's electronic recycling program is rolling. The E-Cycle Wisconsin program came out of a 2009 state law that requires electronic manufacturers to fund a recycling program for homes and schools' old televisions, computers, monitors and other electronics. The program got under way in January 2010. According to DNR figures, registered collectors took in 10.4 million pounds of old televisions, computers and other electronics during the first six months of 2010. Over the year that ended this past June collectors took in 35.1 million pounds. Collection sites are located in 68 of the state's 72 counties. A list is available on the DNR's website.

12-19-11 past holiday cards

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — The Wisconsin Historical Society is giving people a peek into holiday motifs of the past by posting more than 200 old cards online. Robin Weaver works in the library at the Wisconsin Historical Society and says the 226 holiday cards date back to 1845. She says the thousands of cards in their regular archives include other occasions like Mother's Day and Valentine's Day that have trickled in over the years. She says they picked the most interesting holiday ones to post online starting last year. Among the cards online are greetings from presidents Dwight Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy and George W. Bush and those sent by governors Phil La Follette, Warren Knowles and Martin Schreiber.

12-19-11 city offices closed for christmas holiday

City offices in the City/County Government Center and the Municipal Service Center will be closed the afternoons of December 23 and December 30 and all day December 26 and January 2 in observance of the holidays. Refuse collection scheduled for Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2 will be collected on Tuesday, December 27 and Tuesday January 3 along with the regular Monday collection. Please have your refuse ready for collection by 5:00 AM. Fond du Lac Area Transit will not operate on the afternoons of December 23 and December 30 and all day on December 26 and January 2 in observance of the holidays. The Senior Center will be closed on December 23, 26, 30 and January 2 in observance of the holidays. The Fond du Lac Public Library will be closed on December 24 and 25 as well as January 1 for the Christmas and New Year's Holidays. The Library will return to regular hours on January 2. Police and Fire Departments will be fully operational throughout the holiday period.

12-19-11 fdl county tax bills due soon

Fond du Lac County taxpayers can expect to receive their 2011 tax bills in the mail by mid-December. They will also be available to view and print through the Fond du Lac County website by logging onto www.fdlco.wi.gov. Taxpayers are encouraged to pay their taxes by mail to avoid waiting in long lines. Please return the appropriate payment stub(s) with your payment. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if a payment receipt is requested. Payment for parcels located in the City of Fond du Lac and the Village of North Fond du Lac should be made payable and mailed to the Fond du Lac County Treasurer's Office, 160 South Macy Street, P.O. Box 1515, Fond du Lac, WI 54936-1515. Payments for all other municipalities (Towns, Villages, Cities) are collected by the appropriate municipality. Please see tax bill payment stub for further payment details. Real Estate taxes may be paid in full or the 1st installment is due by January 31, 2012 with the balance due by July 31, 2012.

12-19-11 red kettle campaign

Fond du Lac Salvation Army officials say the need for assistance this holiday season is greater than ever. The Salvation Army Red Kettle campaign is in full swing. The goal is \$150,000. Schaefer says volunteers are needed to man the kettles. If you want to volunteer you may call the Salvation Army at 923-8220.

12-19-11 winter parking restrictions

The City of Fond du Lac Police Department and the Department of Public Works is taking this opportunity to remind the members of the community that the **WINTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS** are now in effect. Parking from November 15th to March 15th is restricted between the hours of 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. **On EVEN NUMBERED DAYS**, starting at 8:00 p.m. parking is restricted to the EVEN side of the street. **On ODD NUMBERED DAYS**, starting at 8:00 p.m. parking is restricted to the ODD side of the street. Any **METERED AREA** is still restricted to 60 minutes between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. This ordinance overrides all other on-street parking restrictions where parking is allowed. Please remind family, friends and overnight guests of these restrictions as violations can be costly. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions please call the shift commander at 322-3710.

12-19-11 fdl county sheriff's department law of the month

December marks the eighth anniversary of the enactment of a Wisconsin law that prohibits drivers from having any detectable amount of a controlled substance in their system, such as marijuana or cocaine, while operating a motor vehicle. The law also makes the legal penalties for drugged driving the same as drunken driving. (Wis. Stats. 346.63(1a)) The Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office and other law enforcement agencies are continuing their efforts to combat drugged driving. Law enforcement officers throughout the state have extensive training and experience in procedures that effectively identify drivers impaired by alcohol. Officers use many of those same procedures to identify drugged drivers. Drivers who exhibit behavior or symptoms indicative of drug use must submit to a blood test that determines the presence of drugs. Refusing to submit to the blood test means an automatic revocation of the driver's license. In addition to illegal drugs, the overuse or abuse of medications, especially when combined with

alcohol, will often cause impaired driving. State law prohibits drivers from being "under the influence of any drug to a degree which renders him or her incapable of safely driving or under the combined influence of an intoxicant and any other drug to a degree which renders him or her incapable of driving safely. Drivers under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or a combination of the two are deadly threats to everyone on the road. That's why officers never take a break—even over the holiday season—from arresting those who choose to get behind the wheel while impaired.

Have a Safe Holiday Season,

Sheriff Mck Fink

12-19-11 fdl police department law of the month

Inattentive driving is one of the leading causes of automobile crashes. Basically inattentive driving means a driver is driving distracted. We have all seen distracted drivers. People driving while talking on a cell phone, texting, reading a book, putting make up on, drinking coffee, etc. When we see these distracted drivers we immediately realize the dangers they impose. The Wisconsin State Statute for Inattentive Driving (SS 346.89) reads, "No person while driving a motor vehicle shall be so engaged or occupied as to interfere with the safe driving of such vehicle." This definition does not list one thing or a group of things that are illegal to engage in while driving because the list of distractions that can cause one to drive inattentively is endless. A citation for inattentive driving can cost you from \$101.40 to \$178.40 and 4 points on your driving record. Obeying this law is especially important for drivers now that the winter months have arrived. When road conditions become poor, it is important that drivers are able to fully concentrate on the roadway. Treacherous road conditions, plus added distractions are a recipe for a devastating crash. With the numerous electronic devices available in today's society, we all must refrain from using them while driving to help ensure that the City of Fond du Lac remains a safe place to live, learn, work and play!

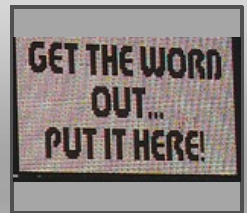
Officer Nate Rucker #15

12-19-11 agnesian healthcare lovelight campaign

The star atop this year's Love Light Tree, sponsored by the Agnesian HealthCare Foundation, will shine in memory of individuals lost from the Agnesian HealthCare family this past year. This year's star shines for Agnesian HealthCare Volunteers that include Dan Ewald, August "Gus" Kresbach and Kate Wallace. Proceeds from the Love Light fund drive will benefit Agnesian HealthCare's Grief Relief program, which provides a safe place where children, teens and their families can grieve openly and share experiences as they move through the grief process in a supportive environment of their peers. The Grief Relief program meets twice monthly in the lower level of the Fond du Lac Regional Clinic West building, 912 S. Hickory Street in Fond du Lac. Age-appropriate toys are available for younger children; art supplies for art therapy are available as well. Grief Relief also offers suicide support as well as a support group for widows/widowers on Wednesdays. The public is invited to attend this year's Love Light Tree Lighting Ceremony at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 14 at the St. Agnes Hospital lobby. Love Lights can be purchased through December 31 at the information desks at either St. Agnes Hospital or the Fond du Lac Regional Clinic and cost \$10 each. Tammy Waidelich and Lori Tschetter are leading this year's drive. Call (920) 926-4959 for more information.

12-19-11 waupun memorial hospital blood drive

Area residents are invited to join Waupun Memorial Hospital associates, volunteers and physicians and donate an hour of time on Tuesday, January 3 to give blood to the BloodCenter of Wisconsin. Blood donations will be accepted in the Lower Level Meeting Room from 12:30 to 5 p.m. at Waupun Memorial Hospital, 620 W. Brown Street, Waupun. Giving blood is easy and takes about an hour. The process includes registering, giving a brief medical history, and having temperature, blood pressure and hemoglobin checked. Blood that is donated remains local, as the BloodCenter of Wisconsin is the sole supplier of blood to Waupun Memorial Hospital and St. Agnes Hospital, as well as 55 other Wisconsin hospitals in 27 counties.



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