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Local News

[CBS News](#)[Watch Latest AP Videos Click The Graphic](#)[Latest Local News](#)**5-7-11 governor walker orders layoff notices for state prosecutors rescinded**

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Gov. Scott Walker's administration has rescinded plans to impose a work reduction on assistant district attorneys. The administration had planned to implement a 20 percent work reduction on Sunday after the assistants' union refused to take six furlough days before the end of the fiscal year on June 30. The administration said that was the only way to achieve the equivalent savings. The union insists their contract prohibits the furlough days. District attorneys around the state warned the work reduction could cripple the courts. Walker says in a statement he doesn't want to jeopardize public safety and promised to full fund the assistants through the next two months. He did not say where he would find the money.

5-7-11 governor walker statement on state prosecutors

Governor Scott Walker issued the following statement this afternoon regarding state prosecutors: "This afternoon I directed my Department of Administration Secretary, Mike Huebsch, to immediately rescind the layoff notices that were sent to state prosecutors. I also instructed DOA to notify the state's prosecutors that we would fund their personnel costs for the remainder of this fiscal year. It's unfortunate that the previous administration largely tied the state's hands and limited our ability to balance our budget without significant cuts to public safety. However, public safety is a top concern of my administration and thousands of Wisconsin families that can not be disregarded. For this reason we will ensure that prosecutors are not furloughed and receive the funding necessary to pursue justice."

5-7-11 supreme court recount update

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Justice David Prosser held a 7,316-vote lead over challenger JoAnne Kloppenburg before a statewide recount began April 27. The state Government Accountability Board is providing daily updates on the recount's progress by precinct. Here's a look at where the recount stood as of Friday afternoon:

—Precincts recounted and given a preliminary review by board staff: 2,951 of 3,602

—Prosser's current total: 598,495

—Kloppenburg's current total: 572,451

—The board reported that counties have recounted 1,172,117 votes, which is approximately 78 percent of the total votes cast.

5-7-11 fallen fdl police officers badges to be retired

The badges of three fallen Fond du lac police officers will never be worn by another city police officer. The Fond du Lac city council will consider a resolution at their next meeting honoring officers Craig Birkholz,

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Nick Klaske and William Prinslow for making the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of their community. Officer Prinslow, Badge #2, was responding to the sound of a gunshot he heard as he was walking to work unarmed and in uniform on November 19th, 1898. Three suspects had attempted to rob a mail carrier and were fleeing when officer Prinslow ordered them to stop. Prinslow was shot and killed by one of the suspects. Badge #6, Officer Klaske, was investigating a burglary on October 29th, 1961 and surprised two suspects. A chase ensued and one of the suspects shot Klaske in the stomach. He died two days later. And on March 20th of this year Badge #67, Officer Birkholz was responding to assist an officer who had been shot during a "high risk" investigation when Birkholz was shot and killed. The resolution retires the badges of all three officers.

5-7-11 fdl visitors bureau shuts down lakeside spirit

The Lakeside Spirit will not be sailing on Lake Winnebago this summer. Fond du lac Visitors Bureau President, Craig Mblitor, says the decision not to operate the boat was made to better serve the bureau's core mission as a destination marketing organization. Mblitor says the bureau will try to find a new owner for the vessel. Anyone with questions about previous arrangements on the Lakeside Spirit should call the bureau.

5-7-11 bin laden scam

The State Department of Consumer Protection is warning residents that scam artists are using Osama Bin Laden's death as a tactic to steal personal identity information from consumers. Administrator of the Division of Trade and Consumer Protection, Sandy Chalmers, says people should be cautious of unsolicited e-mails that supposedly include photos or videos involving the terrorist's death. Chalmers says for some people the opportunity to view images of Bin Laden's death will be intriguing. Chalmers says the content can include a virus programmed to steal Social Security numbers, credit card and bank numbers and usernames and passwords stored on a person's computer.

5-7-11 waupun teen charged with sexual assault

A Waupun teen charged with sexually assaulting a child has been bound over for trial. 17 year old Alexander Ramirez waived his right to a preliminary hearing Thursday in Dodge County Circuit Court. He's charged with second degree sexual assault of a child. According to a criminal complaint, Ramirez had sexual relations with a 13 year old girl. The victim said she was forced to have sex with Ramirez. An arraignment hearing has been scheduled for June 7th.

5-7-11 waupun man charged with possession of child pornography

A Waupun man charged with possession of child pornography has been bound over for trial. 28 year old Spencer Andrie waived his right to preliminary hearing yesterday in Dodge County Circuit Court. He's facing four counts of possession of child pornography. According to a criminal complaint, Andrie allegedly downloaded child porn on a computer using file-sharing software and was discovered by special investigators during an undercover internet investigation. An arraignment hearing has been set for June 1st.

5-7-11 uw oshkosh professor apologizes

OSHKOSH, Wis. (AP) — The University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh professor who urged students to sign a recall petition during class is apologizing. Stephen Richards issued a public apology today, saying he failed to comply with University of Wisconsin policy on political discussion in the classroom. Richard was recorded March 7th in class encouraging students to recall Republican state Senator Randy Hopper.

5-7-11 hopper recall campaign kickoff-saturday

Republican state senator Randy Hopper is gearing up for a recall fight. Senator Hopper and the Fond du Lac County Republican party are holding a campaign kick-off and open house this weekend. The program begins at 12:30pm Saturday at Republican party headquarters on West Johnson Street. Senator Hopper is one of several Republican senators to face a recall election over his vote in favor of ending collective bargaining for public employees. The woman who challenged Hopper three years ago and lost by less than 200 votes, Jessica King, is running against Hopper in the recall election.

5-7-11 collective bargaining

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — State attorneys have asked a judge to dismiss a lawsuit challenging Gov. Scott Walker's contentious collective bargaining law. Democratic Dane County District Attorney Ismael Ozanne alleges Republican lawmakers violated Wisconsin's open meetings law during debate on the plan. Dane County Judge Maryann Sumi has blocked the law while she considers the case. In motions filed today, the state's attorneys say the case should be thrown out.

5-7-11 owi penalties

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Two GOP legislators want to stiffen Wisconsin's drunken driving penalties. State Senator Alberta Darling and Representative Jim Ott are looking for co-sponsors for a bill that would make a first offense a crime if the driver's blood alcohol level is 0.15 percent or higher. The legal limit is 0.08 percent.

5-7-11 invasive beetle

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Wisconsin officials fighting an invasive beetle are now turning to the bug's natural enemies — three species of tiny Chinese wasps. The mutual target is the emerald ash borer. The emerald ash borer was found in Wisconsin in 2008, putting the state's estimated 700 million ash trees at risk.

5-7-11 tourism spending

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — A new study shows that tourism spending in Wisconsin increased 1.8 percent in 2010. The study released today by the state Tourism Department shows that Wisconsin travelers spent about \$12.3 billion last year.

5-7-11 pioneer road bridge closing

The Department of Public Works would like to inform the motoring public that the Pioneer Road bridge over the Fond du Lac River will close starting Monday, May 9th. The roadway will be closed approximately 500 feet west of South Main Street to a point just west of the bridge. The closure is necessary for installation of new sanitary sewer and water main across the river. This work is being done in advance of an upcoming bridge replacement project by Fond du Lac County later this summer. The bridge will reopen to traffic once the contractor has finished work in the immediate area of the bridge, which is expected to be about two weeks. Partial lane closures will occur as work proceeds west into the Morris Street and Hickory Street intersections. An anticipated completion date for the entire utility replacement project is late July. Access will be maintained to local businesses and residential properties through the duration of the project.

5-7-11 wfdl news wins big at associated press awards banquet

Sunny 97.7 WFDL news has won more awards this year for excellence in broadcast journalism than any other radio station in the state. News Director, Greg Stensland, received eight first place awards at the Wisconsin Associated Press Broadcast Journalism Excellence Awards Banquet. The awards dinner was held this month at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. For the fourth year in a row Stensland took home first place for **Best Newscast**. Stensland also received first place in the **Hard News** category for his coverage of the Fond du Lac police officer and firefighter involved in a hit and run crash and subsequent cover up. Stensland received first place for **Spot News** for his stories on the fire that destroyed a Fond du Lac bowling alley, first place in the **Best Enterprise Reporting** category for his investigative reporting of the Fond du Lac police officer accused of using excessive force on a handcuffed prisoner, first place for **Best Continuing Coverage** for overall coverage of the Fond du Lac Management Information Systems embezzlement scandal, first place in **Best Series Reporting** for a Sunny 97.7 series on drunken driving, first place for **Best Feature** for a story on the Iraq war, and first place for **Best Audio** for a feature story on grease fires. Over the years Stensland has received more than 80 awards from the AP and Wisconsin Broadcasters Association, plus numerous local awards.

5-7-11 fdl county sheriff's department law of the month

Does tailgating force the driver in front of you to speed up or get out of your way? No, tailgating typically won't get you where you're going any sooner, but it will increase your risk of a crash. Drivers who tailgate cause countless crashes—from fender benders to fatal collisions—that could be avoided if they would just leave sufficient space between their vehicle and the one ahead of them. It doesn't matter if you're driving on a busy highway or a city street, if the vehicle in front of you stops unexpectedly, you're likely to crash unless you leave enough room to stop completely. You should also slowdown to leave sufficient space when approaching stop lights, intersections, and when changing lanes. To avoid rear-end crashes, you should anticipate potentially hazardous situations, like traffic slowdowns in work zones, that could cause the driver in front of you to stop suddenly. According to state law, drivers "shall not follow another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and prudent" based on the speed of the vehicle, road conditions, and traffic. A violation of the law costs \$200.50 along with three demerit points. In addition, car insurance premiums often will skyrocket for drivers who hit another vehicle while following too closely. During the upcoming summer travel season when traffic increases, it's extremely important to always wear a safety belt just in case you're rear ended by a tailgater. Taking a few seconds to ensure that you and your passengers are buckled up may be the best decision you'll ever make.

Drive Safely,
Sheriff Mick Fink

5-7-11 uw fdl commencement

The University of Wisconsin-Fond du Lac will hold its annual spring Honors and Commencement ceremony at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 20 in the Prairie Theater, 400 University Dr., Fond du Lac. This year's Commencement speaker is Kevin Miller, executive director of the Fond du Lac Arts Council, which owns and operates Windhover Center for the Arts. Eric Pamperin of Hartford has been selected as the student speaker. Pamperin graduated from Winnebago Lutheran Academy in 2009. He is majoring in sports management and plans to transfer to Marian University in the fall. While a student at UW-Fond du Lac, Pamperin was active as a student ambassador, served as a Student Government Association senator and was a member of the Multicultural club. He was the recipient of a UW-Fond du Lac Foundation scholarship in each of his two years at the university and was the student speaker for the Foundation's Donor and Scholarship Recognition reception in September 2010. UW-Fond du Lac is one of the 13 freshman/sophomore campuses which comprise the UW Colleges, serving approximately 13,000 students across the state of Wisconsin.

5-7-11 samaritan raffle house tickets on sale

Tickets for the 16th annual Samaritan Health Clinic House Raffle, sponsored by the Agnesian HealthCare Foundation, are now on sale, with the drawing slated at noon on Tuesday, May 17 at the raffle house. Tickets will cost \$50 each or \$150 for four. State raffle regulations mandate that ticket sales need to occur on a face-to-face basis, which means tickets are unable to be sold through the mail or by phone. Beginning April 30, the house will be open to the public for viewing each weekend until the drawing. Public open houses are scheduled from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on April 30 & May 1, May 7 & 8 and May 15; from 4 to 8 p.m. on May 13 & 16; and from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on May 17. Tickets are available for sale at each open house. In addition to open houses, tickets will be on sale on Saturday, April 23 at Festival Foods, 1125 E. Johnson Street, Fond du Lac, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tickets will also be available to purchase at either Agnesian HealthCare Information Desk, Jet Stream Car Wash, Partners by Design, Fox Valley Saving Bank and the Agnesian HealthCare Foundation. Tickets can also be picked up at other locations in the area. Gruenewaldt Construction is building the raffle's grand prize - a 2,272-square-foot upscale, one-story home at 605 Whispering Springs Drive in The Highlands subdivision in the city of Fond du Lac. The three-bedroom house with oversized three-car garage features natural stone exterior; a deck with access from the dining area; a spacious master suite with large walk-in closet and custom-tiled walk-in shower; vaulted ceilings, bookcases and shelving in the great room; an advanced security alarm system and surround sound system donated by Shea Electric & Communications; central air; and a central vac system and active radon system donated by Cutter Vac. Partners by Design coordinates the furnishings and decoration of the house for the open houses. This year's raffle house has been tested and designed a Wisconsin Energy Star home which places it in the top five percent of all homes built in Wisconsin for energy efficiency and air tightness. It incorporates products and construction methods that contribute to the safety, energy efficiency, durability, indoor air quality (including radon control) and comfort of the occupants. The grand-prize winner can choose to keep or sell the \$290,000 house, or accept \$145,000 in cash. Raffle ticket purchasers can also win three \$1,000 cash prizes; Area Rug donated by Twohig Flooring

America (valued at \$1,000); 32" Sony TV donated by Advanced Audio & Video (valued at \$550); \$500 gift certificate donated by Partners by Design & Fine Furnishings, Inc.; Golf Foursome w/Car & Dinner for Four donated by South Hills Golf & Country Club (valued at \$400); Seasons by Linstrom's \$200 gift certificate donated by Dave and Heather Linstrom; and Culver's gift certificates donated by Rick & Pat Miller, Culver's of Fond du Lac & Oshkosh (valued at \$200). The Samaritan Health Clinic's annual house raffle is the main source of funding for the Samaritan Health Clinic's operations. All proceeds help provide patients with important diagnostic tests, medications and health services. These patients may not be eligible for medical assistance or have limited or no insurance. For more information, call the Agnesian HealthCare Foundation at (920) 926-4959.



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