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- LOCAL PODCAST
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- CONTEST RULES
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## Local News

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Latest Local News

### 10-6-11 cip cuts may bode well for taylor park pool

Recent cuts outlined in a proposed Fond du lac Capital Improvement Plan may bode well for keeping the Taylor Park swimming pool in operation. During a workshop session last month the city council was able to identify more than \$850,000 in cuts...that will make it easier to address a projected \$1.7 million dollar budget shortfall. Council President Rick Gudex won't commit, but says its good news for areas like the Taylor Park pool. "I know that's a hot topic and that's going to be dealt with here in the next month but if we can get rid of a lot of non-essential things...all the better for items that may be of controversy like Taylor Park Pool," Gudex said. Gudex had previously said he would probably vote to close the pool because it was losing money. The city manager is expected to present a proposed budget soon.

### 10-6-11 niesen conviction upheld

AWisconsin appeals court has upheld the conviction of a man convicted in a Fond du Lac cold case homicide. The District Two Court of Appeals has upheld the conviction of Thomas Niesen. Niesen was convicted in the 1976 murder of 19 year old Kathleen Liechtman at a 2009 jury trial in Fond du lac. He was sentenced to life in prison. Niesen was arrested after a DNAsample obtained from Niesen matched DNA evidence found at the murder scene. The appellate court found there was sufficient evidence to uphold the conviction and that Judge Dale English properly exercised his discretion in each challenge of evidentiary rulings. Leichtman was a dancer at The Other Place tavern...an adult dance club.

### 10-6-11 fdl judge denies conditional release for man who shot and killed his wife

For the second time in two years a Fond du lac County man convicted in the shooting death of his wife has been denied his petition for conditional release. Keith Vandeberg shot and killed his wife in 1998 and was found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect. He was committed to a mental institution for life...but is able to periodically petition the court for conditional release. That would allow him out of institutionalized care and into the community under supervision. At a hearing Wednesday mental health professionals testified that Vandeberg posed little threat to the community. The District Attorney again argued that the potential risks are great if Vandeberg were to re-lapse to his pre-treatment conditions. Fond du lac County Circuit Court Judge Richard Nuss denied Vandeberg's petition for release.

### 10-6-11 catnapped kitten

Folks at the Little Farmer Apple Orchard want their kitten back. Linda Struye says her cat Slim was catnapped from the Little Farmer at around 5pm Sunday. Struye says a witness saw a mom and four kids walking with a struggling cat to their car about the time Slim disappeared. "This is a wonderful cat,

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customers just love him and we love him," Struye told AM1170 WFDL's Between the Lines program. Struye is pleading with whoever took Slim to bring him back, no questions asked. "Just drop him off and he'll know he's home. We're just heartbroken."

#### 10-6-11 justice department releases fdl police shooting report

[Click Here To View The Report](#)

The Wisconsin Department of Justice is releasing public records of the investigation into the fatal shooting of a Fond du Lac police officer. The department is releasing excerpts of the more than one thousand page report which includes pictures of the crime scene and recorded audio...including a voice message left by the shooter James Cruckson on his girlfriend's voice mail blaming her for the incident. On March 20th Cruckson shot and killed officer Craig Birkholz before killing himself.

#### 10-6-11 lieutenant governor goes "between the lines"

Wisconsin Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Kleefisch says the most important thing state government can do to help small business is to get out of their way. Lieutenant Governor Kleefisch is hosting the Governor's Small Business Summit at Lambeau Field on November first. "We want everyone far and wide to know what a great opportunity this is to tell your government what they're doing right, what we're doing wrong and how we can get the heck out of your way," Kleefisch told AM1170 WFDL's Between the Lines program. Kleefisch says the goal of the summit is to engage small business owners in a conversation about the future prosperity of the state and what state leadership can do to help their businesses succeed. Individuals interested in attending should register by October 25th. You may register on line at [VHEDA.COM](#) or contact the Lieutenant Governor's office at (609) 266-3516. The registration fee is \$50.

#### 10-6-11 reader's digest scam

The Wisconsin Bureau of Consumer Protection is warning residents about a fake check scam in Wisconsin. Administrator of the Division of Trade and Consumer Protection, Sandy Chalmers, says state residents report they have received letters from someone posing as Reader's Digest, congratulating them on winning a half million dollar sweepstakes drawing. Chalmers says when the check finally bounces, the bank will hold you accountable for the amount. Chalmers says throw away any prize offer that asks you to pay money up front. If someone you don't know asks you to wire money, end the transaction immediately. If you accept payment by check, insist the check be drawn on a local bank...and resist pressure to "act now."

#### 10-6-11 food prices

Wisconsin grocery prices are up for the 4th straight quarter. Retail food prices grew just over two percent during the third quarter of the year according to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's marketbasket survey. Farm Bureau spokesman, Casey Langan, says of the 16 food items surveyed, 10 increased in price compared to the second quarter. Eggs increased 26 cents to \$1.53 cents per dozen. The price for apples, bagged salad and shredded mild cheddar cheese were the other items that saw the largest percentage increases over the last three months. Still Wisconsin food prices are lower than the national average.

#### 10-6-11 national rifle association has problems with state's concealed carry rules

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — The National Rifle Association is complaining about the Wisconsin Justice Department's concealed carry rules. NRA officials say they believe the department is crafting its own requirements for proof-of-training documents when the law allows instructors to set training parameters. A justice department spokeswoman says department officials believe the rules are within their authority.

#### 10-6-11 badgercare plus

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — State health services officials say they're raising the monthly premium again for enrollees in Wisconsin's BadgerCare Plus Basic health insurance plan. The monthly premium will be increased from \$250 to \$325 a month starting in November. The program is for low-income adults with no dependent children who are on a waiting list to get into the more generous BadgerCare Plus Core plan.

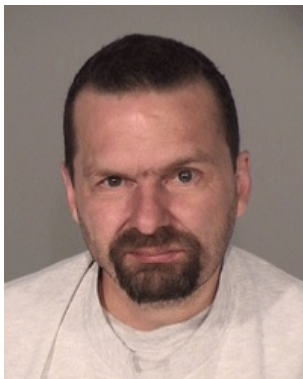
#### 10-6-11 governor-medicaid cuts

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Governor Scott Walker says his administration's proposed Medicaid cuts are designed to preserve a basic safety net. State health officials released proposals last week designed to generate more than \$554 million in Medicaid savings. Walker says the plan calls for retaining services for the neediest people and making others pay more as their incomes increase.

#### 10-6-11 hunting, fishing bill

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Republican legislators have introduced a bill to boost participation in hunting, fishing and trapping. The package calls for dramatically slashing hunting and trapping license fees for first-time applicants or applicants who haven't participated in the sports for a decade.

#### 10-6-11 fdl county sheriff's department most wanted fugitive



The Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office holds valid arrest warrants for the above pictured individual. Anyone with information on this fugitive should contact the Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office at (920) 929-3390 or the Sheriff's Office Tip Line at 920-906-4777

**Name:** Michael F. Rhoades

**DOB:** 01-09-1967

Male / White

**Last Known address:** 52 E. 9th Apt 2. Fond du Lac WI. Also known to be in the Oshkosh area

**Place of Birth:** Fond du Lac WI.

**Offense wanted for:** - Fond du Lac City Police: Second Degree Sexual Assault BODY ONLY

**Height:** 5' 07" **Weight:** 140

**Hair:** Brown **Eyes:** Hazel

**Date validated:** 10-03-11

#### 10-6-11 sheriff's department says most wanted fugitive has similarities to trail attack suspect

The Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Department wants to question a man in connection with last month's reported sexual assault on the Wild Goose hiking trail. Forty four year old, Michael Rhoades, of Fond du lac is this week's Sheriff's Department Most Wanted Fugitive. A picture of Rhoades looks similar to a sketch of a suspect in connection with the September 20th incident. Sheriff's Lieutenant of Detectives, Cameron McGee, says Rhoades is wanted by Fond du Lac police on a charge of second degree sexual assault. His last known address was 52 E. 9th Street apartment #2 in Fond du Lac. He is also known to be in the Oshkosh area. Anyone with information about Rhoades's whereabouts is asked to contact the sheriff's department at 929-3390 or the Sheriff's Tip Line at 906-4777.

#### 10-6-11 state parks-storm

STURGEON BAY, Wis. (AP) — State parks in Door County will be open this weekend after extensive cleanup from last week's wind storm. The Department of Natural Resources says power has been restored to all parks, and repairs to water and sewer services, restrooms and buildings are done.

#### 10-6-11 guinness world record

NEWBERLIN, Wis. (AP) — A representative with the Guinness Book of World Records confirms a Wisconsin costume company's world record for most video game character costumes in one place. Buyseasons gathered 425 people dressed as video game characters today at its suburban Milwaukee headquarters. The previous record was 376 at a May 2009 gaming convention in London.

#### 10-6-11 light up the night

This year's Annual Light Up the Night Against Violence program is scheduled at St. Agnes Hospital's Plaza Level Conference Center, 430 E. Division Street, Fond du Lac, at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, October 12. The public is invited to attend. This year's keynote speaker will be William Lamb, City of Fond du Lac police chief. Following the presentation, individuals will walk against violence. Glow necklaces will be distributed to the walkers and all participants will receive a purple ribbon in remembrance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Refreshments will be served following the walk. In addition, the Silent Witness Exhibit will be on display showing people in the area who have been murdered by domestic violence. This year's event is being sponsored by the Solutions Center, the Fond du Lac County Coordinated Community Response Against Violence (CCR), Fond du Lac Department of Corrections, Soroptimists and St. Agnes Hospital Domestic Violence Program.

#### 10-6-11 highway t closure

County Highway T from Nelson Rd to Townline Rd will be closed starting October 5, 2011 to reconstruct the bridge over a branch of the West Branch Fond du Lac River in the Town of Lamartine. Construction to replace the load posted and structurally deficient bridge is expected to be completed by mid November, weather permitting. The highway will be closed to all traffic and a detour will be posted via County Highway T (Esterbrook Road), State Highway 23, and County Highway Y.

#### 10-6-11 road closure

County Highway W (Pioneer Road) from County Highway VV (Hickory Street) to Military Road will be closed on Monday, October 10, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. The road is expected to be reopened later that afternoon. A detour will be posted via County Highway VV (Hickory Street), County Highway VV (Rolling Meadows Drive), and County Highway D (Military Road). County Highway VV (Hickory Street) from County Highway W (Pioneer Road) to Military Road will be closed on Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. The road is expected to be reopened later that afternoon. A detour will be posted via County Highway VV (Pioneer Road) and Military Road. During these road closures, the Canadian National Railway will be removing the railroad crossings at those locations.

#### 10-6-11 pioneer road closure

County Highway W (Pioneer Rd) from Park Avenue to Martin Avenue will be closed starting October 10, 2011 for storm sewer construction that is part of the Galloway detention pond being constructed by the City of Fond du Lac. The highway closure is expected to last five days. The highway will be closed to all traffic and a detour will be posted via Park Avenue, Ninth Street, and Martin Avenue.

#### 10-6-11 division street closure

On Monday morning, September 19, the Division Street Bridge at Deneveu Creek will be closed to all vehicular traffic for about three weeks while the concrete bridge deck is resurfaced. At least one sidewalk crossing the bridge will remain open to pedestrians except for about one day while the concrete deck is being placed. The bridge location is east of St. Agnes Hospital between Reid Terrace and Oaklawn Avenue. St. Agnes Hospital will not be accessible from the east on Division Street. The Hospital is accessible from National Avenue on Second Street and from Park Avenue along Division Street from the west. Bus service on Division Street will be moved to Merrill Avenue from Oaklawn Avenue to the east.

#### 10-6-11 west pioneer road reconstruction update

**CTH VV; West Pioneer Road Reconstruction**

**Schedule:** July 2011 to November 2011

**Length:** 0.213 miles

Cost: \$1,848,192.39

**Location: Morris Street to Main Street**

**Description:** The project involves the reconstruction of CTH W (Pioneer Road) between Morris Street and Main Street, the reconstruction of the Pioneer Road bridge over the East Branch of the Fond du Lac River and the construction of the Wild Goose Prairie Trail within the project limits.

**September 29 to September 30:** Bridge crew will begin forming up the deck for the new structure. Grading crew will continue grading the roadway on the east side of the bridge from the FDL River to the east project limits and will begin grading on the west side of the project.

**Traffic impacts:** CTH W (Pioneer Road) will be closed to through traffic for the duration of the project. Local traffic will have access during the project except when construction is taking place in immediately in the vicinity of their residence or business. The contractor will coordinate with residents and businesses prior to any closures.

**Detour Route:** Fond du Lac County will post and maintain a detour during the duration of the project. The eastbound detour route is CTH W (Pioneer Road) to Hickory Street to USH 151 to Main Street and back to CTH W (Pioneer Road). The westbound detour route will be the reverse of the eastbound detour route.

**10-6-11 senior police academy**

The Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office is proud to announce the formation of our 13th annual Senior Citizens Police Academy. The intent of this program is to give seniors an in-depth look at the role of a modern law enforcement agency through demonstration and lecture. More importantly, the program is designed to create a partnership between citizens and law enforcement, in the classroom as well as in the community. We can think of no better way to accomplish this other than through a process of learning from each other and developing a trusting relationship with one another. The Academy will consist of 6-weekly sessions beginning Wednesday, October 19 and concluding on Wednesday, November 23. The classes will be held on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 am – 11:30 am. All classes will be at the Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office, 180 S. Macy Street, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. This program is offered free of charge to all Fond du Lac County residents, age 50 and above. For more information or to receive an application, please contact Office Coordinator Donna Whitty at the Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office at 929-3372 or visit our website [www.fdlsheriff.com](http://www.fdlsheriff.com) to print an application. Class size is limited. It is advisable to submit your application for consideration as soon as possible.

**10-6-11 fdl county public health flu shot clinics**

The Health Department will be offering influenza vaccine (inactivated and flumist) for \$25.00 per dose and pneumococcal vaccine for \$50.00 per dose at the sites listed below beginning in September. Medicare Part B, Medicare Advantage Plan and Medicaid will be accepted if an accurate number is provided. If you have further questions call the Health Department at 929-3085 or 1800-547-3640 or visit our website @[www.fdlco.wi.gov](http://www.fdlco.wi.gov).

**DATE TIME LOCATION**

- October 7, 2011** 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM Campbellsport Senior Center
  - October 10, 2011** 10:30 AM to 12:00 Noon North Fond du Lac Senior Center
  - October 11, 2011** 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon National Exchange Bank, Mt. Calvary
  - October 11, 2011** 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM Salem Methodist Church, Eldorado
  - October 12, 2011** 3:30 PM to 4:45 PM Pick and Save, Ripon
  - October 13, 2011** 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM Fond du Lac Senior Center
  - October 18, 2011** 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM National Exchange Bank, Fond du Lac
  - October 21, 2011** 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM National Exchange Bank, Campbellsport
- Vaccine available at the Health Department, Monday – Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM on a walk-in basis. Schedule subject to change without notice.

**10-6-11 agnesian healthcare flu shot clinics**

Seasonal flu vaccines for individuals nine and older will be available in the Agnesian HealthCare Lobby Concourse, 430 E. Division Street, Fond du Lac: October 26, 27 and 28, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Agnesian HealthCare pediatric seasonal flu clinic at the Fond du Lac Regional Clinic, 420 E. Division Street, Fond du Lac, is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m. starting September 13. Appointments for the pediatric flu clinic are necessary. Call (920) 926-8424 for Pediatrics and (920) 926-8615 for Internal Medicine/Pediatrics. The Agnesian HealthCare Family Medicine flu clinic at the Fond du Lac Regional Clinic, 420 E. Division Street, Fond du Lac, is available on Tuesdays, October 4 and 18 and November 1 and 15. Appointments for the family medicine flu clinic are necessary. Call (920) 926-8200 for an appointment and register at Clinic Registration upon arrival. Flumist, a nasal vaccine, is available for healthy children ages two and above. Inform the receptionist of your preference at the time of scheduling.

**Fond du Lac Regional Clinic satellite locations are also offering flu clinics, including:**

- October 26, 27 and 28** from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Walk-ins welcome.
  - October 17, 19 and 20** – 900 Main Street, Brownsville, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and November 3 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (920) 583-1300 for an appointment.
  - October 21** – 350 E. Sheboygan Street, Campbellsport, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Agnesian EZ Care is offering flu vaccines at both locations, 1107 E. Johnson Street, Fond du Lac, and 904 W. Main Street, Waupun, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Clinic at Walmart is offering flu vaccines at both locations, 377 N. Rolling Meadows Drive, Fond du Lac, and 810 S. Irish Road, Chilton, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**10-6-11 fdl county sheriff's department law of the month**

During the fall harvest season, more farm equipment will be on rural Wisconsin roads and highways so motorists will need to be especially alert, focused and patient. To share the road safely, drivers should slow down immediately whenever they see a fluorescent orange slow-moving vehicle emblem on the rear of a tractor or other piece of agricultural equipment. They also must be extremely cautious while trying to pass slow-moving vehicles. You should not pass a slow-moving vehicle if you cannot see clearly in front of the vehicle you intend to pass or you are in a designated no passing zone. Farmers and others using animal-drawn vehicles on a roadway have the same rights and duties as operators of motor vehicles. You should be careful not to frighten the animals. Do not sound your horn or flash your lights near them, and give the animals plenty of room when passing. For their part, farmers and other operators of slow-moving vehicles must follow safety regulations. According to state law, farm tractors, agricultural implements, animal-drawn vehicles or other vehicles that are normally operated at speeds below 25 miles-per-hour must display a "Slow Moving Vehicle" (SMV) sign on the left rear of the vehicle. In all cases—even when the vehicle is not a SMV—if it is operated during hours of darkness, the front and rear of the vehicle must have

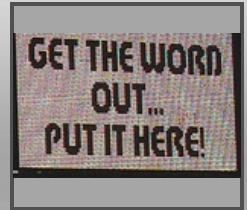
lights (white to the front, red to the rear) and the lights must be illuminated. Acitation for failure to display a SMV sign or a violation of the lighting requirement each cost \$162.70 (VM State Statute 347.245). Vehicles traveling slower than normal traffic must stay as far to the right-side of the roadway as practical. This does not mean slow vehicles must drive on the shoulder of the road although this is allowed if there is room to do so safely. Common sense and courtesy will go a long way to keeping our rural roadways safe during the harvest season.

Have a Safe Month,

Sheriff Mck Fink

#### 10-6-11 fdl police law of the month

The Fond du Lac Police Department's October Law of the Month is passing stopped emergency vehicles, tow trucks, and highway machinery equipment. The Fond du Lac Police Department wants to educate everyone on how to safely pass stopped emergency vehicles, tow trucks, or highway machinery/construction equipment (snow plows, waste management vehicles, lawn cutting equipment). The Department of Transportation traffic law for passing stopped emergency vehicles, tow trucks, and highway machinery (VM Statute 346.072) states that the operator of a motor vehicle approaching a stopped authorized emergency vehicle giving a visual signal, a tow truck displaying authorized lights, or any road machinery or motor vehicle used for road construction/maintenance displaying approved lights, or is parked on or within 12 feet of a roadway, the operator shall proceed with caution by moving into a traffic lane that is not the lane nearest the stopped/standing vehicle or machinery and continue traveling in that lane until safely clear of the stopped/standing vehicle. This applies only to roadways that have two traffic lanes in the same direction. On a one lane roadway, the operator of the motor vehicle must slow their speed, maintaining a safe speed for any traffic conditions and operate at a reduced speed until completely past the stopped/standing vehicle or machinery. The Fond du Lac Police Department urges all motorists to use caution when approaching any emergency vehicles. Slow down and stay alert!



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