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Latest Local News

6-14-11 waupun interim superintendent says proposed cut to broadband internet access is "ignorant"

The Waupun School District interim superintendent says a decision to reject about \$39 million in federal money to extend broadband Internet access across Wisconsin is "ignorant." The Joint Finance Committee voted this month to force the UW System to return the money and no longer support Wiscnet. Waupun School District interim superintendent, Don Childs, says that would likely mean WiscNet could no longer provide Internet services, which would double or triple costs to schools and libraries. "It's ignorant, that's what I make of it," Childs said. "...it's the most foolish thing I've ever seen." Childs says it's just another in a growing list of examples the governor has taken that will ultimately cost taxpayers money in the long run. "He (governor) does it every time he does something like this," Childs said. "This is not Wisconsin open for business, this is Wisconsin backyard rummage sale I'm afraid." Meanwhile Childs says the budget before the legislature this week will cut more than \$800 million dollars from public education. "Although there's been a lot of talk from the governor's office about providing school districts the tools to be able to manage the reductions in state aid, the fact is that the tools are insufficient."

6-14-11 state senate majority leader hopes legislature approves budget within a week

The legislature begins debate on the state budget this week...and the senate majority leader says he hopes work on the budget can be completed in about a week. "I think it's in the eyes of the beholder, but I think the legislature actually made some significant improvements to what governor Walker initially introduced," State Senator, Scott Fitzgerald, said. "Fitzgerald says Republicans have kept their promise to balance the budget without raising general taxes and reduces the state's structural deficit."

6-14-11 walker union proposal

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — The latest version of Governor Scott Walker's union proposal exempts local government transit workers. So those workers would retain their collective bargaining rights. Walker's spokesman says the governor supports the latest version, which otherwise largely mirrors the original.

6-14-11 9 year old girl stabs man in the back after he allegedly threatens girl's mother

Bail has been set at \$5000 cash for a Fond du lac man who was stabbed in the back by a 9 year old girl as he allegedly threatened to kill the girl's mother. Twenty seven year old Jason Fields is charged with first degree recklessly endangering safety, strangulation and disorderly conduct. Police were called to the scene early Sunday after Fields broke the woman's windshield. Deputy Police Chief Kevin Lemke tells WFDL news Fields grabbed the woman, started choking her, held a knife to the woman's throat and threatened to kill her. "The nine year old child trying to defend her mother grabbed a knife and stabbed at

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the man," Lemke said. "It was non-life threatening injuries, the man was taken to Saint Agnes Hospital for treatment and later to the county jail." The girl told police she stabbed Fields in the leg two years earlier when he was hurting her mother. "Unfortunately we have a nine year old girl that witnessed something pretty traumatic and took traumatic action herself and a child should not be put into that situation," Lemke said. "We're treating the child as a victim and making sure the Department of Social Services is involved and that the necessary help that she needs to get through this event."

6-14-11 new fcedc interim president named

The Fond du lac County Economic Development Corporation has named a new interim President. Managing partner of Redevelopment Resources, Kristen Fish, has been named interim president while the search continues for a new president of the organization. Redevelopment Resources provides development and redevelopment services to business, organizations and municipalities. Fish was also recently named executive director of the Wisconsin Economic Development Association. She will work limited hours at the FCEDC starting Wednesday and will also assist with the search for a new president.

6-14-11 tanzanian trunk show helps impoverished women

A Tanzanian Trunk Show in Fond du lac Tuesday evening is an effort to help impoverished women avoid becoming victims of human trafficking. Coordinator of peace, justice and ecology for the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Agnes says this year's proceeds will help build two classrooms in Tanzania, East Africa. The trunk show supports the AIDS Orphans Sewing project. to help the girls, ages 15-20 learn the basics of sewing and ultimately to become tailors. The show will be held from 4pm to 7pm Tuesday June 14th at the First Presbyterian Church in Fond du lac.

6-14-11 alcohol advertising

The Fond du lac police department is notifying alcohol licensed establishments they may be in violation of an ordinance regarding alcohol advertising. A group of high school students reported at last week's council meeting that about half of the more than 100 establishments surveyed were violating the ordinance regarding the size of a sign on a window. Council member, Rob VandeZande, says he's proud of the students for bringing the matter to the attention of the council and community.

6-14-11 food prices

Retail food prices are up three percent in Wisconsin in the second quarter. That's according to the latest Wisconsin Farm Bureau Marketbasket survey. Farm Bureau spokesman, Brock Bergey, says energy costs continue to impact grocery bills. Bergey says the good news is that Wisconsin prices for the 16 food items surveyed are about two dollars less than the national average.

6-14-11 johnson street bridge

The Department of Public Works would like to give notice that the south (east bound) traffic lane and sidewalk of the Johnson Street (STH 23) Bridge, between Military Road and Hickory Street, will be closed for about 2 weeks beginning Wednesday morning, June 15. The lane closure is due to bridge painting. In about two weeks the south lane will be re-opened and the north outside lane will be closed while that railing is repainted. The bridge will be open to traffic with two lanes open in one direction and one lane open in the other direction next to the painting operation. There will not be a detour route marked.

6-14-11 fdl county sheriff's department most wanted fugitive

The Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office holds valid arrest warrants for Ryan Jacob Davies. 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: Ryan Jacob Devries **DOB:** 08-29-90 Male / Black

Last Known address: 378 Grove St. Fond du Lac WI

Place of Birth: Fond du Lac, WI.

Offense wanted for: - Fond du Lac Police Warrant: Substantial Battery BODY ONLY Winnebago Co.

Warrant: PTC Burglary CDTP BODY ONLY Fox Lake PD Underage Drinking \$172.00

Height: 5'09" **Weight:** 157

Hair: Black **Eyes:** Brown

Other Physical: Tattoos: Neck, Left Arm

6-14-11 fdl county highway reconstruction project

The Fond du Lac County Highway department has started work to rehabilitate County Trunk Highway Q (CTH) from US Highway 151 to CTH W in the Town of Taycheedah. In general, the county will replace deteriorated culverts and extend culverts as necessary, regrade several ditches, pulverize the existing asphalt pavement, resurface the highway with asphalt pavement, and upgrade signs. In addition, the county will make safety improvements to several hills by cutting down three hills on the highway. A hill about 1/10 mile east of Lakeview Road will be cut down about 2 feet, a hill 1/4 mile west of CTH QQ will be cut down about 3 feet, and a hill about 1/2 mile east of CTH QQ will require rock blasting to cut it down 10 feet. The county is awarding a construction contract for the rock excavation work on last hill to Denny Rahn, Inc. of Eden. As part of the project, several utilities will be relocated. In particular, Alliant Energy will be moving utility poles away from the road to near the right-of-way line to provide a greater "clear zone", a safety area that allows a driver of an errant vehicle to safely regain control or come to a safe stop. Earlier this year, the county removed several trees in this zone to also provide greater safety. The highway will be closed to thru traffic starting June 6 when work to pulverize the existing pavement begins. The highway will be open to local traffic only. A detour will be posted via USH 151 and CTH W. During construction of the hill cut east of CTH QQ, the road will be closed to all traffic at that hill. The county anticipates completing most of the paving work by early to mid July with those completed portions of highway reopened to traffic at that time. The rock excavation portion of the project is anticipated to start at the end of June or early July and is estimated to be completed by mid to late August depending on the timing of utility relocations and weather. For updates on this project or for information on other Fond du Lac County Highway projects, check out our highway construction webpage at www.fdlco.wi.gov/Index.aspx?page=1112.

6-14-11 fdl county 175th anniversary

The Fond du Lac County Board Chair and Executive's Office announces plans to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the 1836 establishment of Fond du Lac County, on June 21, 2011 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Legislative Chambers of the City/County Government Center, 160 S. Macy Street, Fond du Lac. The celebration will begin with a re-enactment based upon the minutes of the first meeting of the Board of

County Commissioners which was held on October 7, 1839. Following the re-enactment, a community reception with light refreshments will be held at the Historic Postilion, 220 Old Pioneer Road, Fond du Lac. The public is invited to attend. Anyone is welcome to come dressed in attire from that time period. The re-enactment will be broadcast on Charter Cable Channel 21. The Fond du Lac County Board of Supervisors monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 21, 2011 beginning at 5:45 p.m.

6-14-11 community of unity

A Community of Unity. That's the theme of a fundraising luncheon this month in honor of a fallen Fond du Lac police officer. UW Fond du Lac Foundation Director, Amanda Kemmel, says all proceeds will benefit the Foundation and Fond du Lac Police Department K9 fund. Kemmel says the March 20th shooting incident that claimed the life of officer Craig Birkholz affected the lives of many in an instant. The fundraising luncheon will be held on Tuesday June 14th at the UW Fond du Lac Commons. Cost per person is \$35 or \$275 for a table of eight.

6-14-11 wfdl, wtcx are wba award winners!

WFDL and WTCX captured 13 awards at the recent Wisconsin Association of Broadcasters Awards for Excellence Gala in Madison. The program is sponsored annually by the WBA to recognize outstanding achievement by Wisconsin broadcasters. The Sunny 97.7 WFDL morning show team of Nick Rusch and Heather Robins took home 3rd place for **Best Morning Show**. WFDL FM also received two awards in the **Significant Community Impact** category for the Relay for Life cancer fundraiser. Golden throat veteran WTCX announcer Gregg Owens captured first place for **Best Commercial** with the "Bob's 151 Wheel of Misfortune" commercial. Owens also won awards for **Best On-Site Broadcast Remote**... "Master Spas Wet Test" and **Most Entertaining Client Commercial**... "Its Cold." Owens is also a past winner in the **Best Morning Show** category. WFDL AM 1170 received awards for **Best Sports Play by Play**... the "Randolph Football Playoffs" and **Significant Community Impact**... "Cut the Calories, Count the Cash." WFDL news director, Greg Stensland, won first place in the **Best Continuing Coverage** category for his coverage of a Fond du Lac woman who tried unsuccessfully to have several books removed from a middle school library. Stensland also received awards in **Hard News** for his coverage of a Fond du Lac police officer and firefighter involved in a hit and run and attempted cover-up of the incident, **Spot News**... for the Last Stop Bar and Lanes arson fire, **News Writing**... for a feature story on a local woman in Haiti during the massive earthquake, and **Live On The Scene Reporting**, for his coverage of a house fire. Stensland and Owens also took home first place for their **Information Block Morning News** on WTCX. The WBA competition was established to encourage the highest standards of reporting, community service and production creativity.

6-14-11 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 recently 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.

6-14-11 fdl county sheriff's department law of the month

Slower traffic keep right - Drivers must allow faster traffic to pass in the left lane on divided highways Many divided highways in Wisconsin have signs that warn "slower traffic keep right." That advice is backed by state law - Wis. Stats. 346.05(3). Any vehicle traveling "at less than the normal speed of traffic" must be driven in the right lane (or as close as practicable) except when overtaking or passing another vehicle, according to Wisconsin law. Citation for violating this law costs \$213.10 with four demerit points assessed on the driver's license. Even when you're driving at the posted speed limit, you should not try to force faster drivers to slow down by blocking the left lane, which usually leads to more tailgating, road rage and other problems. It certainly doesn't slow down other drivers for long. We hope that drivers will leave enforcement of speed limits to our deputies and other law enforcement officers. If faster drivers want to waste gasoline and risk a speeding ticket, you should move to the right lane and get out of their way. The Sheriff's Office advises motorists to follow these guidelines to help maintain a safe flow of traffic on Interstate and other divided highways:

- * If you're not passing another vehicle, use the right lane as much as possible.
- * If you're in the right lane, allow other drivers to merge from the left lane into the right lane so that faster traffic can pass in the left lane. In addition, provide space for vehicles to merge into the right lane when they are entering a roadway from an on-ramp.
- * If you're in the left lane, don't tailgate or try to make a slower vehicle ahead of you move to the right lane. Be patient and courteous.

When slower moving vehicles use the right lane, traffic flows more smoothly with less congestion and road rage, which certainly helps make our highways safer and more efficient. Have a Safe Month,

Sheriff Mck Fink

6-14-11 fdl police department law of the month

For June, officers from the Fond du Lac Police Department will be paying particular attention to drivers who are texting. The new state law that took effect on December 1, 2010 falls under the inattentive driving statute. Research from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has shown drivers who send and receive text messages end up taking their eyes off the road for an average of 4.6 seconds out of every 6 seconds while texting. Of all fatal traffic accidents in 2008, the U.S. DOT reported 16 percent involved distracted drivers and nearly 6,000 people were killed. Wisconsin state statute 346.89(3)(a) states that, no person may drive any motor vehicle while composing or sending an electronic text message or an electronic mail message. This does not include when the vehicle is stopped, including when a vehicle is stopped at a traffic light, stop sign or in traffic due to congestion. The texting ban is only enforceable when the vehicle is in motion. The fine for texting while driving starts at \$101.40. This does not apply to an

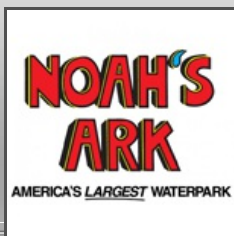
operator of an authorized emergency vehicle. The use of any device whose primary function is transmitting and receiving emergency alert messages and messages related to the operation of the vehicle or an accessory that is included in the vehicle, including a global positioning system device. An amateur radio operator who holds a valid amateur radio operator's license issued by the federal communications commission, when he or she is using dedicated amateur radio two way radio communication equipment and observing proper amateur radio operating procedures. The use of a voice operated or hands free device, if the driver of the motor vehicle does not use his or her hands to operate the device, except to activate or deactivate a feature or function of the device. Texting while driving is a primary law, which means officers, can pull over drivers solely for texting without having to identify another violation first, such as speeding or a lane violation. Even though the law does not ban reading messages or using the internet while driving a motor vehicle, these activities can be just as dangerous and should be avoided while driving. So, even though it may only take a few seconds to send that text, remember that it can wait!

6-14-11 agnesian healthcare blood drive

Area residents are invited to join Agnesian HealthCare employees, volunteers and physicians and donate an hour of time on Wednesday, June 29 to give blood to The BloodCenter of Wisconsin. Blood donations will be accepted from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Agnesian HealthCare's Plaza Level Conference Center, 430 E. Division Street, Fond du Lac. 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 St. Agnes Hospital and Waupun Memorial Hospital, as well as 51 other Wisconsin hospitals. To donate, make an appointment by calling 926-4960. Walk-ins are also welcome.

6-14-11 rienzi cemetery walk

What do you get when you combine outdoor exercise with stories of local history? You get Tracy Reinhardt's Rienzi Cemetery walk. When you add Fond du Lac Community Theatre actors and actresses to the mix, history comes to life. This is the 6th year for these popular cemetery walks, and the upcoming walk takes place on June 18 at Rienzi Cemetery starting at 9:30 a.m. The tour highlights the lives of some of the ordinary, as well as more prominent people who helped to create and settle the city of Fond du Lac, and some of the struggles they lived through. You'll meet Gov. Nathaniel Tallmadge, the most powerful politician of his time. As a Senator from New York, he was known as a great orator, and frequently debated the slavery issue with John C. Calhoun. He worked tirelessly behind the scenes to keep President Van Buren from getting a nomination for a second term. His efforts were successful, and he was offered several political positions as a reward, but elected to move to Wisconsin instead. Rienzi Cemetery was originally part of the Tallmadge farm, and Gov. Tallmadge created the cemetery after the death of his 19 year old son. You will also hear from Sophia Walker, who wrote under the pen name of Lisle Lester. Sophia was a pioneer in the publishing industry, starting the very first magazine in Wisconsin, called the Badger State Monthly. She also was a champion of giving women opportunities to work, and is credited with hiring the first women type-setters in both Wisconsin and California. Sophia expanded her studies into acting, and then spent her life giving presentations and lectures throughout the world. Unfortunately, her retirement used up her fortune, and she died a pauper. Within the last 10 years it was discovered that Sophia's ashes were still sitting unclaimed, in the basement of a New York mortuary, but when inquiries were made to transport them to her plot in Rienzi, the mortuary decided to tack on a 100-year storage fee of \$10,000, so Sophia remains in a New York mortuary basement. Mason Darling is often called the Father of Fond du Lac. He was first brought here by the Fond du Lac Land Company, to help establish Fond du Lac as a prime destination for settlement. He helped to build the fledgling city by offering many of the city lots for free, to anyone who could start building immediately. He was the first Village President, the first Mayor of the City, and after statehood, he was the first Congressman. New this year, you'll learn about the Fond du Lac native named "Skinny Bill" Hooker, and hear the story of his young career, and his many exploits as a "Bullwhacker" driving wagon trains in the west. Hear him tell the story of how the state of Wyoming erected a monument to him, and credits him with opening up that state for settlement. You'll also learn about Joe Roukis, a small restaurant owner who disappeared one night in 1941 and was never heard from again. Hear the story of his murder and its aftermath. There are other short stories of Fond du Lac history that will be discovered as you walk the hills of Rienzi. Also featured is the monument for Lulu Parker, and discover just why her monument was listed in Ripley's Believe It or Not! Find out which Fond du Lac business has a special connection to the South Pole. The Rienzi Cemetery receiving vault, opened in 1865, will also be open for viewing during the tour.



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