

Problems/Programs Report WQPC/WPRE 7-7-22

QTR 2 2022

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WQPC airs produced news reports at 7am, 8:00am, 8:30am, 12:30pm and 5:00pm. A community affairs/interview program airs weekdays at 9am.

WPRE airs produced news reports at 7:15am, 8:15am, 8:45, and 12pm. A community spotlight interview program airs at 10am.

A number of significant local news stories were covered. Some of the highlights include:

## **April**

### **4- The Grant County Sheriff's Office Receive Donation**

The Grant County Sheriff's Office recently received a donation to the K9 program from the family of Gordon Hons. Gordon was a police officer with the Madison Police Department from 1961 until retiring in 1998. He moved to Grant County and served with the Grant County Sheriff's Office, Cuba City Police Department, and the University of Wisconsin police department. The Sheriff's department also received donations from the Retired Madison Police Department Officers Association, as well as other family members. These donations come at a great time, as K9 Riko will be retiring in the coming months and a new K9 team will be coming in late July.

### **- Light for All Seasons**

The April "Light for all Seasons" at Crossing Rivers is Kelly Mundt. Kelly's name and photo will be displayed on the monitor at the Main

Entrance of Crossing Rivers Health Medical Center for the month of April and will be featured on the Partners of Crossing Rivers Health website.

### **11- Avian Flu Hits the Midwest**

Wisconsin zoos and animal sanctuaries are taking precautions against the avian flu by limiting tours, closing aviaries and implementing other safety measures to protect birds against the highly contagious disease. At the Heartland Farm Sanctuary in Verona, public and private tours are on hiatus. And, the sanctuary's chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese and emus are quarantined in a barn for protection. Milwaukee County Zoo's aviary is temporarily closed to protect its birds. As the state's largest zoo, Milwaukee has a large number of birds, including flamingos, hornbills, vultures, penguins and ostriches. On Friday The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection suspended all poultry shows, exhibitions and swap meets statewide through May 31st. The avian flu is believed to have originated with wild birds, and with spring migration in full swing, there is a risk of wild birds bringing the disease to new locations.

## **12- Crossing Rivers Health Finalizes Expansion Plans**

Crossing Rivers Health has finalized plans for an expansion project that will add clinic space to its medical building. Construction on the approximately 18,000 square foot addition to the medical center's north side will begin this Spring and is expected to last a year. The new clinic addition will replace the existing 6,000 square foot clinic building that stands a few hundred feet from the hospital. The new clinic addition will open in the Spring of 2023.

This story ran April 12th at 7:00 am-, 7:30 am, 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 5:00 pm

## **13-Prairie Du Chien Common Council Update**

The Prairie du Chien Common Council met Tuesday night and City Administrator Chad Abram says they approved a resolution to pay off a TIF bond a year early. The council also received a safe drinking water loan to replace a water main on Villa Louis Road. G-Pro was the low bidder to do the work, which will begin in the fall.

## **18- Grant County Sheriff Seeks Re-Election**

Grant County Sheriff Nate Dreckman has announced he will be seeking re-election. In a press release announcing his intentions to run for another term as Grant County Sheriff, Dreckman said that the past 9 ½ years as Grant County Sheriff has provided him with the honor of serving the citizens of Grant County. He says he looks forward to working with the citizens of Grant County to provide professional law enforcement services. Dreckman says he intends to work with the county board and many other partners to help make Grant County a safe place to work and raise a family.

## **20- Grant County Board Supervisor Re-Elected**

Bob Keeney has been re-elected for another two years as the Chairperson of the Grant County Board of Supervisors. Keeney was re-elected on a 17-0 unanimous ballot on Tuesday (yesterday) as no one else was nominated by fellow supervisors for the position. Keeney has served as the chair of the Grant County Board since April 2014. The board chair is paid an annual salary and serves in an administrative role working with county department heads and elected officials in the operation of county government. Porter Wagner of Dickeyville was elected 1st Vice-Chair and Don Splinter of Hazel Green was elected 2nd Vice-Chair.

## **May**

### **2- Gays Mills Women Arrested for Reckless Speeding**

Coon Valley Police arrested a Gays Mills woman after she was found traveling more than 70 miles per hour over the speed limit in Coon Valley Friday. Authorities say after receiving several calls from concerned drivers they eventually discovered 35-year-old Amanda McKaig driving more than 100 miles per hour in Coon Valley's 30 MPH speed zone.

McKaig attempted to flee when an officer was at her open door during the traffic stop, Police had to use physical force before she was arrested.

### **Boscobel man faces charges of Felony Fleeing and Eluding**

The Vernon County Sheriff's office says the incident happened Saturday night as 50 year old Brian Yahn was stopped by a Crawford County Deputy. Yahn became agitated during the stop and fled the scene. The Crawford County office requested help from the Vernon County Sheriff's Department as Yahn crossed into Vernon County on Highway 61. A Vernon County Deputy located Yahn just south of Viola. He again refused to stop, and the deputy terminated his pursuit as Yahn approached Viola. On Sunday, Yahn was located and taken into custody without incident.

### **3- May Light for All Seasons**

Partners of Crossing Rivers Health have announced the honorees for Light For All Seasons for the month of May. Those being remembered this month are Darlene Wolfgram and Keith Kozelka. Their photos and names will be on the display monitor at the Main Entrance of Crossing Rivers Health Medical Center the entire month. If you would like to remember someone in this special way, there are forms at both entrances of Crossing Rivers Health, Jerry's Gift Shoppe'

### **4- Prairie Du Chien Common Council Meeting**

The Prairie du Chien Common Council met Tuesday night. The council continues to work on upgrading the city's sewer system, which will result in a sewer rate increase in 2023 and will be implemented over the next five years. City Manager Chad Abram says the city water department consumer confidence report shows lead levels in the city's water is the lowest it's been in many years. The full report is posted at [cityofpdc.com](http://cityofpdc.com). The council also brought the vape product use ordinance up to date stating that it is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to buy and use vape products in Prairie du Chien, which brings the city's code up to state and federal regulations. The council also held discussion on the designation of the Blackhawk Business District Design and Preservation District.

### **11 Crawford County Dairy Breakfast**

Plans are set for the 40th Annual Crawford County Wisconsin June Dairy Breakfast. This year's event will be hosted by The John & Carrie Nolan family & Patrick & Tammy Nolan family. The event will be held on Saturday June 4th. The host farm is located about 8 miles north of Prairie du Chien at 30990 Johns Lane. Serving will be 6:00am until 10:00am. Tickets are \$2 per meal. Parking will be limited & bussing will be available to the farm from the Piggly Wiggly parking lot & the PDC High School parking lot every 15 minutes. The Nolans originally hosted one of the first Dairy Breakfasts on this original farm site in 1983 with about 1,600 people attending. The 1997 Dairy Breakfast was held at Patrick's residence. In 2007 the breakfast was held at John's residence. On average over 3,000 people now attend the breakfasts with numbers growing each year. John & Patrick milk 190 head of registered Holstein cows year-round.

### **23- 529 Day Celebrated in Crawford County**

Every year May 29th (5/29) is celebrated as "529 Day." It is a day to learn about the benefits of saving early for higher education for children because a little savings can go a long way to

building future dreams. Why "529 Day"? Because 529 College Savings Plans are named for Section 529 of the federal tax code. They are an easy way to save and invest for higher education, whereby anyone can set aside money for a child's future education and watch that money grow tax-free. Parents, grandparents, and community members can all help a child realize their potential, by putting money aside for future education. When the child is ready to continue their education, the funds can be used for tuition, room & board, books, and more. And, the best part is that there are no income tax on those withdrawals. Plus, the depositor gets a Wisconsin state tax credit on their contributions.

## **24- Wisconsin DHS recommends Covid Booster for Everyone 5 Years and Older**

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services is recommending COVID-19 booster doses for everyone age five and above. D-H-S supports the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommendation that children ages five-through-eleven should receive a booster dose five months after their initial Pfizer vaccination series. With this recommendation, D-H-S and C-D-C now recommend COVID-19 vaccine booster doses to everyone five years of age and older. The C-D-C also recently strengthened another recommendation, encouraging those 12 and older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised, and people 50 and older to get a second booster dose.

## **June**

### **3- June Light for All Seasons**

Partners of Crossing Rivers have announced the Light for all Seasons for the month of June. This month's honoree is June Sylvester. June's name and photo will be placed on the monitor at the Main Entrance of Crossing Rivers Health Medical Center. If you would like to honor someone in this way, forms are available at the Main and North Entrances of Crossing Rivers Health, as well as at Jerry's Gift Shoppe.

### **7-Iowa June Primaries**

Iowans are headed to the polls today for voting in the June Primaries. There are only a handful of contested races. Three people are vying for two republican nominations for Clayton County Supervisor, including incumbent Steve Doepke of Elkader and challengers Doug Reimer of Guttenberg, and Adam Meyer of Saint Olaf. Lester Simon of Colesberg is unopposed on the Democrat side. In Allamakee County, Larry Shellhammer of Lansing faces Dennis Keatly of Waukon for the Republican nomination for Supervisor. Daniel E. Byrnes of Waukon is unopposed for the Democratic nomination. The race everyone will be watching tonight is for US Senator. Long-time Senator Chuck Grassley is being challenged for the Republican nomination by State Senator Jim Carlin. Three people are vying for the Democratic Nomination, including former Representative Abby Finkenauer, , Michael Franken, and Glenn Hurst.

### **14- Alliant Energy Project Moves to Phase 2**

Construction is poised to move forward on the Cassville Solar Project after state regulators gave

final approval to Alliant Energy's second phase of solar development plans. The 50-megawatt solar project in the Grant County town of Cassville will generate enough electricity to power nearly 13,000 Wisconsin homes. Alliant Energy expects construction to create more than 100 jobs. The Cassville Solar Project is among 12 utility-scale solar sites Alliant Energy is developing as part of its Clean Energy Blueprint that will add nearly 1,100 megawatts of solar energy generation to Wisconsin's energy grid. Alliant says they expect the overall plan to help customers avoid more than \$1.6 billion in long-term costs. In addition to powering homes and businesses, the Cassville solar project will generate an estimated \$200,000 in annual shared revenues for the community and county over the next 30 years. The company expects to begin construction on the Cassville project this summer and finish in late 2023.

### **17- Wisconsin DNR Reminds of ATV Safety**

The Wisconsin DNR reminds operators of ATV and UTVs to think smart before you start this summer by following safety best practices. A lack of safety equipment is the leading cause of ATV/UTV incidents. When enjoying off-road rides and adventures, wearing a helmet and seat belt, monitoring speed, and using caution on hills and uneven terrain could save your life. So far this year, six people have died in ATV/UTV crashes; Drivers should follow these tips for a safe ride; Never consume alcohol or drugs before or during your ride; Wear a seat belt and a D-O-T-approved helmet; In addition to a seat belt and helmet, wear protective clothing such as eye protection, gloves, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt.

### **20- Wisconsin Economic Impact Data Released**

Statewide, total economic impact increased 21 percent, with all 72 counties reporting double-digit growth over 2020. In 2021, tourism supported more than 169,700 full and part-time jobs across diverse sectors of the industry, up 7 percent over 2020. Wisconsin also hosted over 102.3 million visitor trips in 2021, up 12 percent from 2020. Visitors generated \$1.4 billion in state and local taxes because of tourism spending. In Crawford County, tourism generated 67 million dollars, a 22.1 percent increase over 2020. That generated 5.5 million in state and local taxes, a 19.6 percent increase over 2020. Grant county tourism generated 95 million, a 13.5 percent increase over the previous year, generating 6.3 million in state and local taxes – an 18.2 percent increase from 2020. Wisconsin tourism continues to recover but has not fully recovered to Wisconsin tourism's record setting year of 2019, which saw \$22.2 billion in total economic impact.

### **22- Two Dead in Suspicious Vernon County Death**

The deaths of two people are being investigated by the Vernon County Sheriff's Office. A news release from the office says a call was received Sunday at 8:47 p-m about a suspicious death. Emergency responders found the bodies of two adults in the home in a rural area near Coon Valley when they arrived. No names have been released and investigators haven't said how the victims died.

### **- Prairie Du Chien Common Council Reviews 2021 Audit**

The Prairie du Chien Common Council met Tuesday night and heard a report on the 2021 audit.

City Manager Chad Abram reported that the city is in good financial standing. The city approved the issuance and sale of \$423,900 dollars in water system revenue bonds for the Villa Louis Road project. The council also heard a report from Chamber President Bob Moses on tourism numbers for 2021. Moses reported that tourism is up 21 percent since 2020. The council approved a 5K and fireworks for the 150th celebration coming up on July 14th. Abram also addressed concerns about the rail cars parked on Saint Feriole Island. He let the council know that he and Mayor Hemmer have been trying to get the situation resolved.

## **27- Every Person has a Fair Story Contest**

Every year, hundreds of individuals attend the Crawford County Fair and tell their friends about the great time they had. Maybe it was your first encounter seeing a cow, riding the Ferris wheel, eating a corn dog, or serving as superintendent for 30 years, or even getting engaged; but it happened at the fair. Now, it's time to share your story with the rest of the county with the "Every Person has a Fair Story" contest. Anyone who wants to share their fair story about the Crawford County, Wisconsin Fair, is welcome to enter. Share your fair story in 200-400 words. If you have a photo to include, even better, but not required. If your story did not place in the top placing before, you're able to submit your story again. The Grand Champion will receive \$50.00 and a certificate; Reserve Grand Champion will receive \$25.00 and a certificate. The winners will be announced at the 2022 Crawford County Fair. Submit by mail to the Extension office by August 10th or online at the Crawford County Extension website by August 15th!

In addition to the coverage of significant news stories and community issues, WQPC/WPRE continued to broadcast interviews with local and regional elected officials, candidates, including (but not limited to):

- Brad Pfaff

Interviews with people from various departments, such as:

TODD SHEA - SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS  
MIKE ULRICH PARKS AND REC  
CHERYL MADER - PDC ROTARY  
AMANDA SMILEY - CRAWFORD CO 4H HORSE TRAINING  
MATT MOSER - CLAYTON CO K9 HANDLER  
KATHY LANG - CRAWFORD CO. EXTENSION FOOD SAFETY  
PDC CITY MANAGER CHAD ABRAM - COMMON COUNCIL MEETING RECAP  
BERNIE GRUMAN HARPERS FERRY FIRE DEPARTMENT WILD GAME FEED  
WONDER WORKERS 4H CLUB/STEPHANIE MEZERA  
JANET PAULSON SPRING FLING CRAFT AND FLEA MARKET  
AMMIE KATZUNG - PDC MAIN STREET  
DONNA TEYNOR - MASTER GARDENERS  
RIVERS AND BLUFFS ANIMAL SHELTER  
JULIA NUNES - ALICE IN DAIRYLAND  
PDC POLICE CHIEF KYLE TEYNOR - DRUG TAKE BACK  
EXTENSION CRAWFORD COUNTY AMANDA GRISWOLD Coping with high prices  
JESSICA GOLTZ - KATIE RUFF MAR-MAC CHAMBER - KETUCKY DERBY DAY  
CODY MILLKIN & JUSTIN OSWALD - C4 CAR CLUB  
FROELICH MUSEUM  
KATHY LANG EXTENSION FOODWISE

BOB MOSES PDC CHAMBER UNCORKED EVENT  
ART SULLIVAN - COAST GUARD AUXILIARY  
CRAWFORD CO DAIRY PRODUCERS – DAIRY BREAKFAST  
ROBY FULLER; JIM MCGRATH ADRC PROGRAMS  
BOB MOSES AND SUSAN CAYA SLUSSER - ANNIVERSARY TOUR AT VILLA LOUIS  
DONNA TEYNOR PLANT SALE AND KIDS IN THE GARDEN  
KEVIN LENZENDORF - QB BUSINESS / LITTLE MISS SQUIRT  
MIKE MCCOY SW TECH GED CLASSES  
Brianna Mullikin and Misty Johnson Hooking for Hope Cancer Fundraiser  
Aisja Achebach Crawford Co. Dairy Princess  
Roby Fuller and Sonya Lenzendorf - Health improvement plan  
MONONA HAY DAYS  
MONTY STEIBER - PDC MASONS FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM DONATIONS  
MATT KISSANE ENTERTAINER AT SUMMER CONCERT SERIES  
CAROL ROTH - DRIFTLESS DEVELOPMENT  
JESSICA GOLTZ - LAZY RIVER WINE AND BEER FEST  
LEGION BASEBALL ALUMNI GAME FISH FRY  
CHAD ABRAM COUNCIL RECAP  
PAT JOY - EASTMAN 4TH OF JULY EVENT  
ELIZABETH SCHNEIDER - BAGLEY INDEPENDENCE DAY/THUNDER IN THE VALLEY  
DAWN ADAMS - ON THE MOVE WALKING PROGRAM  
CAROLYN SANDS - Canoeing with the Voyageurs  
ROBBY FULLER - FORTUNE COOKIES ALZHEIMERS PROGRAM

*Report prepared on July 1, 2022 by Gabe Buch*