

Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Station: WMQA
Quarter: 4th (Oct.)
Year: 2015

<i>ISSUE DESCRIPTION</i>	<i>PROGRAM SEGMENT</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>DURATION</i>	<i>DESCRIPTION OF SEGMENT</i>
Rhineland school district may head to referendum	News	10/1/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>The Rhineland School District may head to referendum again. Superintendent Kelli Jacobi said with no changes to the state funding formula and nothing different on the horizon, they're forcing difficult decisions to be made. The last several years the school board has cut over \$11-million from the budget while aid percentages continue to drop. Projected shortfalls over the next three years are put at over \$16-million. The early recommendation is a \$5-million referendum the next three years. The board takes up the issue again October 12th.</p>

The Marathon County Sheriff's Department said a 24-year-old suspected heroin dealer is in custody after an investigation by the Marathon County Sheriff's Department Special Investigations Unit and Marshfield Police Department. According to a news release, Melvin Dunomes was arrested during a traffic stop. Investigators said they seized nearly \$80,000 worth of heroin. Investigators said Dunomes was believed to have been trafficking heroin in Wausau and Marshfield.

Governor Scott Walker's approval rating among voters in the state continues to struggle. According to the latest [Marquette University Law School Poll](#) released Wednesday, the Republican governor's approval rating fell to 37

					<p>percent, with 59 percent of voters disapproving of the job he's doing.</p> <p>The numbers are down just slightly from an approval rating of 39 percent in a similar poll conducted in August. They do mark a continued decline in Walker's numbers less than a year in to his second term as governor, after he enjoyed an approval rating of around 50 percent during his first term.</p>
Feingold has lead in early polling	News	10/1/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>Democrat Russ Feingold has a 14-point lead over U-S Senate Republican Ron Johnson in the new Marquette Law School poll released yesterday. But poll director Charles Franklin cautions against reading too much into the numbers. First, the election is still 13 months away. Second, a sizable number of registered voters still don't know enough about either</p>

				<p>man to form an opinion -- although both have high profiles. The Marquette poll says 37-percent don't know enough about Johnson, even though he's been in office for five years and his profile grew tremendously since January. That's when he became the chairman of the Senate's Homeland Security and governmental affairs panel, which is knee-deep in the controversy at the Tomah V-A Medical Center. Feingold, meanwhile, is an unknown to 26-percent of voters, despite being in the U-S Senate for 18 years before losing to Johnson in 2010 -- and staying politically-active since then.</p> <p>Wisconsin's low-income students lost a major source of college funding. After 57 years, the Federal Perkins Loan Program expired at midnight. The Republican-</p>
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					<p>controlled House voted to extend the program, but the Senate barely rejected it. Almost 16-thousand University of Wisconsin students received more than 20-million dollars in need-based Perkins loans in the school year ending in mid-2014. U-W President Ray Cross says the program made higher education more accessible and affordable for many. Spokesman Alex Hummel says the university will do what it can to help those affected -- and will work with the state's congressional delegation to find a new way to continue the program.</p>
Small fire at Expera	News	10/2/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>No one was hurt in a small fire at the Expera Specialty Solutions paper mill in Mosinee last night. The call came in about 7:00. An overheated bearing may have been the cause.</p>

				<p>The threat of a shooting has schools closed in Pewaukee today and homecoming activities cancelled. Officials received a handwritten note indicating there would be a shooting, prompting the actions. In May, 51-year old Lynette Haman pleaded no contest to homicide by negligent operation of a vehicle. The Elkhorn woman was sentenced to jail yesterday. The crash happened in September of 2013 just north of Tomahawk during the annual fall ride. 50-year old Benjamin Guite, Sr of Merrill died after colliding with Haman's vehicle after she turned in front of him. She was intoxicated. Oneida County Judge Patrick O'Melia also sentenced her to five years probation and 150 hours of community service. A wrongful death suit is</p>
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					<p>pending in Lincoln County Court, filed by the family. One person was hurt in a two vehicle collision at the hwys 47 and 51 intersection in Woodruff yesterday afternoon. Traffic was rerouted for a short time because of the crash. There's not a specific law in Wisconsin banning "dipping while driving" but a citation is expected for a Kenosha man who flipped his car while dipping a chicken nugget into a sauce container. Police say the accident happened just before 8:00 last night when the man hit a parked car and ended up on its roof. He escaped with some minor scratches.</p>
<p>Drunk driving arrest in Wis. Rapids</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/2/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>On the heels of the school shootings in Oregon yesterday, officials in Pewaukee cancelled classes and all homecoming activities</p>

today after a threat. Administrators notified police after a handwritten note was discovered warning of shooting today at the school. Tonight's pep rally, football game and parade were all cancelled. Tomorrow's homecoming dance is still on.

Police in Wisconsin Rapids arrested a suspected was a drunk driver near Lincoln High School. An officer noticed a traffic violation and pulled the driver over. A license check revealed it was the sixth OWI and the individual was taken to jail. Road funding was a major sticking point during state budget talks, with the area among the last to be resolved after a month-long stalemate. Republicans eventually trimmed the governor's original request for \$1.3 billion by about

\$800 million. Democrats are calling for a special session to deal with the issue and resulting project delays but Governor Scott Walker says the joint finance committee should just release more funds.

The Senate Economic Development and Commerce Committee invites business leaders to Nicolet College in Rhinelander next week for a roundtable discussion to assist the state senate with formulating an economic development agenda for the remainder of the legislative session. The meeting takes place Monday at the University Transfer Center at two. Tens of thousands of people will take advantage of the pleasant weather in Eagle River this weekend as part of the 36th annual Cranberry Fest. The event,

					at the Vilas County Fairgrounds features hundreds of vendors and dozens of family activities.
More calls for gun reform	News	10/5/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	Last week's mass shooting at a community college in Oregon is once again prompting calls for gun control reforms. While he said the deaths are a tragedy, U.S. Senator Ron Johnson argued against taking any action that would politicize the incident. The Wisconsin Republican said he's not hopping on some particular solution because something has to be done. He said, "We have to make sure whatever we do actually fixes the problem, without depriving Americans of their constitutional and basic rights." Johnson said there are a host of factors behind each shooting incident and he's still not sure what solution will work best, or if

one even exists.

A longtime leader in Wisconsin organized labor is dead. Marty Beil, who served as executive director of the Wisconsin State Employees Union, AFSCME Council 24, from 1985 until his retirement this past June, died Thursday night at his home in Mazomanie. He was 68. A published report says unauthorized improvements have been made to a footpath near Rest Lake in Vilas County, on state land that a donor to Gov. Scott Walker has been trying to buy. A spokesman for business executive Elizabeth Uihlein acknowledged workers at her adjoining property may have cleaned up the trail slightly. But media reports say the improvements are significant. A tentative deal

					for the land with the DNR was put on hold after critics raised questions. An inspection last week found an "established trail." A department spokesman declined to say whether they'd talked to Uihlein or her representatives.
Scott Walker speaks about dropping out of GOP Race	News	10/5/15	1230p,530p	1:30	A Wisconsin Senate panel is hearing ideas from local business leaders on improving the state's economy. The Economic Development and Commerce committee is holding is in Rhinelander today for its second-of-five forums. Ranking Democrat Julie Lassa of Stevens Point says the committee is listening to local economic development experts, business leaders and others in the private sector. Others can express their ideas at the Senate Republicans' website. The panel's

				<p>"listening tour" comes as the Legislature's fall session gets into high gear. The first forum was held last month in Oak Creek. Others are set for Thursday in Appleton, next Monday in Menomonie, and October 26th in Platteville. Governor Scott Walker now says he never expected other G-O-P presidential candidates to immediately follow him out of the race. When he dropped out two weeks ago, Walker said voters should focus on a smaller number of candidates who could give a "positive conservative alternative" to G-O-P front-runner Donald Trump. But none of the 15 remaining hopefuls dropped out. At a recent appearance in Mequon, the Republican Walker told reporters he still expects a smaller field by the time the first caucus</p>
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					<p>votes are cast in Iowa on February first. Last week's Marquette poll showed Trump's support has skyrocketed in Wisconsin since Walker left the race -- but that's not true everywhere. In Iowa, the Public Policy Polling group says former Walker supporters now endorse Ben Carson over Trump in a head-to-head matchup. Marco Rubio, Carly Fiorina, and Jeb Bush also lead Trump among Walker's former Iowa supporters.</p>
<p>Wausau youth to be referred to court on a fire charge</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/6/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>A 16-year old boy will be referred to juvenile court in Marathon County for starting the fire that damaged two downtown Wausau businesses. The blaze last Wednesday was triggered by a cigarette tossed into a dumpster full of cardboard behind Downtown Grocery and Evolve Fitness. Two vehicles</p>

were also damaged. Support for the Minocqua Police Department's K-9 program took a big step forward with a \$20,000 donation. The St. Matthias Thrift Shop brought the department much closer to its \$100,000 goal yesterday to assist with the purchase and training of the dog, specialized handler training, a fully equipped squad car and more. In August the Minocqua Town Board approved the K-9 program provided outside funding was used. Police Chief David Jaeger said the department looks forward to using the dog to track missing persons, provide the school district with security, safety and drug awareness and keep both the community and officers safe. Three people have applied for the seat on the

					<p>Wisconsin Supreme Court, vacant with the death of Justice N. Patrick Crooks last month. Appeals court judge Rebecca Bradley, Dane County Circuit Judge Jim Troupis and Madison attorney Claude Covelli applied for the appointment which will be made by Governor Scott Walker, who hasn't offered a clue about the decision. President Barack Obama announced yesterday an 875 mile stretch of Lake Michigan is one of two U.S. locations being considered a National Marine Sanctuary. <u>The area</u> includes the shoreline from Port Washington to Two Rivers, home to at least 39 known shipwrecks.</p>
Wis. Motorists could spend more on Hwy projects	News	10/6/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>Motorists could end up paying an extra 160-million dollars to slow down five major Wisconsin highway</p>

projects so their costs can be spread out. The figure comes from a study done by U-W Whitewater for the Transportation Development Association. It found inflation would bump up the costs of the projects by 80-million dollars for each year of the two-year delays. Most of the projects are underway in the south and eastern parts of the state-- but they're being slowed down so they don't get finished for another two years. The DOT blames cuts on the state budget.

Auto body shops across northcentral Wisconsin usually handle car deer repairs four or five times a week. Those numbers will jump to four or five a day with the deer rut approaching and hunting season underway. The Lincoln County Sheriff's department urges drivers to

					<p>be on the lookout as the numbers are already on the increase. There were over 18,000 deer related crashes last year and deputies remind drivers not to swerve, the cause of most serious accidents.</p> <p>A graduate of the University of Wisconsin is one of three scientists awarded the Nobel Prize for medicine. William Campbell and Satoshi Omura of Japan were honored for discovering the drug Avermectin. Two derivatives of that drug helped reduce the presence of diseases caused by parasitic worms, mostly in Asia and Africa.</p> <p>The other Nobel Prize winner is Tu Youyou, China's first medicine laureate. He created a drug that sharply dropped mortality rates for malaria.</p>
House fire in Wausau	News	10/7/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	Traffic was rerouted on Hwy 52 just outside Wausau last

night due to a house fire. Several departments responded around 9:30 to the home on the 2700 block of East Wausau Avenue and contained the blaze to the roof. The road was opened a couple hours later. No one was hurt. Another Wisconsin school was closed yesterday due to a weapons threat and a 14-year old is in custody. Yorkville Elementary in Racine County was evacuated yesterday morning when the threat was discovered around 8:30. The school is open today. Pewaukee High School was closed last week and homecoming activities cancelled because of threats.

The number of people killed in traffic crashes on Wisconsin roadways was up last month. Preliminary statistics from the

Department of Transportation show 63 people died in September, 16 more than September of 2014 and seven more than the five year average. Over the first nine months of this year, there were a total of 424 traffic-related fatalities in Wisconsin, 60 more than the same period last year and 11 more than the five-year average. Last year, the state recorded its lowest number of traffic fatalities since 1943.

With a mild winter predicted for the Midwest and fuel prices stable, the US Energy Department says your heating bills should be lower. Especially if you're using propane or heating oil. Stock piles are high and fuel prices, while higher right now, are expected to drop later this fall. Officials to admit however, forecasts can always be off.

<p>Lawmakers considering bills to make it easier to crack down on child abusers</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/7/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Lawmakers will consider several bills that would make it easier for prosecutors and investigators to crackdown on child abusers, while also opening up more resources for victims of abuse and neglect. One of the bills would give victims of sexual assault, human trafficking or child abuse the right to have a victim advocate accompany them during examinations and interviews with police. Another bill would require social service agencies to report any instances of child abuse or neglect. The remaining two would make repeated acts of physical abuse to a child or child neglect formal crimes. Wisconsin is one of 10 states receiving federal grants aimed at helping students learn healthy eating habits</p>
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				<p>and training school nutrition staff. From the US Department of Agriculture, over \$300,000 will provide technical assistance to schools in the breakfast and lunch programs to support the efforts of the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board and other programs with classroom education. Another grant of nearly \$150,000 will aid school nutrition professionals with training, menu planning and other program items. Starting tonight, it will be harder to win the Powerball jackpot -- but you'll have a better chance of winning smaller prizes. There are ten more regular numbers to select. The red Powerball has nine fewer numbers and because of that, the odds of winning the jackpot increase from one-in-175-million, to one-in-292-million. Officials say you'll see larger</p>
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					and more sustained mega-jackpots --. The Wisconsin Lottery says the overall odds of winning any prize will improve. The ticket price remains at two-dollars.
Lakes gas co. customers getting money back	News	10/8/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	Nearly 1600 customers of Lakes Gas Company will get some money back. Complaints about propane delivery fees prompted an investigation and the Department of Justice and Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, who reached a nearly \$87,000 settlement with the company. Deliveries occurred in January and February of last year. The deal includes no more billing Wisconsin customers with pre-buy arrangements. Just eight years after its creation, Assembly Speaker Robin Vos said yesterday the time has come to end the "failed experiment

known as the Government Accountability Board.”
Republicans unveiled [a proposal](#) making sweeping changes to the agency, which is charged with oversight of state elections and ethics laws. The bill calls for splitting the GAB into two new commissions. Each of the panels would have six partisan members, appointed by the Legislature and governor. GAB director and chief legal counsel Kevin Kennedy fired back at the claims, saying many of the examples offered by GOP leaders were “just wrong, incorrect, or incomplete.” Criticism of the agency has grown in recent years after staff became involved in a John Doe investigation, which was focused on what prosecutors argued was illegal coordination between Governor Scott

				<p>Walker's campaign and third party groups during the recall election.</p> <p>Wausau's City Council is working through the new budget and being discussed are cuts to the fire and police departments. A combined total over half a million dollars is possible. Answers are expected next month.</p>	
Two hurt near St. Germain in car accident	News	10/8/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>Two people were hurt, one of them cited for drunk driving following an accident in St. Germain yesterday morning. The 911 reporting the crash came about 10:30 at the intersection of Hwys 70 and J. Both people were treated and released.</p> <p>Don't be surprised to see gas prices jump by ten-to-30 cents a gallon next week. Gas Buddy-Dot-Com says rising crude oil prices and unexpected refinery</p>

shutdowns will affect pump prices in Wisconsin and a dozen other Midwest states. The Triple-"A" says the Wisconsin average for regular unleaded is two-dollars and 49-cents a gallon this morning and experts look for fuel prices to drop again around Thanksgiving.

Wisconsin is about to get its second national veterans' cemetery. The Veterans Affairs Department bought six acres in the Oneida County town of Cassian for 24-thousand dollars. The V-A says the new cemetery will include burial-and-cremation sites, a memorial wall and walkway, roads, and other facilities. An opening date has not been set. Wisconsin's other V-A cemetery, Wood National in Milwaukee, is closed to new burials.

When U-W Eau Claire

					<p>graduates return for homecoming this weekend, they won't see the usual king and queen. The campus festivals committee eliminated those titles, and is calling both positions "royalty" instead. A number of students suggested the change, with a goal of making the homecoming royalty gender-neutral. It's possible the old male-and-female leadership model could produce two men or two women instead. Eleven candidates are in the running. The two with the most votes will be announced tomorrow.</p>
<p>State lawmakers argue about budget cuts</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/9/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Dozens of smaller road projects will now be delayed as state lawmakers argue about budget cuts. Lack of funding already delayed five major projects, caused by the legislature not approving additional funding to pay for them. At</p>

issue is Governor Scott Walker's request to borrow over a billion dollars to avoid raising gas taxes, an amount greatly reduced by lawmakers in the state budget.

A vacancy on the state Supreme Court will likely be filled in the next few days. Justice Patrick Crooks died suddenly last month and Governor Walker said yesterday he's interviewed all three applicants for a temporary appointment to the state's high court.

Wisconsin will serve as the setting for a presidential primary debate in February. The Democratic Party hasn't announced a site yet but it will be hosted by PBS. The Republican National Committee also plans one of its presidential debates in Wisconsin, this one

scheduled for next month.

The Olson Memorial Library in Eagle River reopens Monday, in a new temporary location. A nearly 3-million dollar renovation will more than double their crowded 8000 square feet. The contents of the building are being moved to a temporary spot donated by Ministry Medical Group near the hospital. The cost of the project is covered by grants and local fundraising and library officials expect work to be completed next year.

The Rhinelander District Library meanwhile will be closed Wednesday and Friday of next week for educational in-service training and will remain open for regular hours and programming the remaini

Central Wis. Man caught for dealing drugs

News

10/9/15

1230p,530p

1:30

Janesville Republican Paul

				<p>Ryan has again said no to the House speaker's post. The Ways-and-Means chairman gave his first rejection just hours after G-O-P Speaker John Boehner announced his resignation. Boehner reportedly asked Ryan yesterday to change his mind, after apparent front-runner Kevin McCarthy of California withdrew. Ryan has long said his ultimate goal is to help dictate tax policies as head of the Ways-and-Means committee. He was appointed to that post almost a year ago. Ryan says he's disappointed McCarthy didn't take the speakership, calling him the "best person to lead the House." Ryan is being lobbied heavily again today by the GOP to take the leadership role. A central Wisconsin man under extended supervision</p>
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for dealing drugs has been arrested again. Thirty-seven Pao Yang of Birnamwood is in Marathon County Circuit Court today. Sheriff's officials seized about four-thousand dollars worth of marijuana and meth-amphetamines this week -- along with five-thousand dollars in cash and several weapons. Deputies asked prosecutors to file eight felony charges for possession of drugs with the intent to sell, violating parole, and illegally possessing guns as a convicted felon.

Oneida County's police departments will join the Sheriffs office next week in a prescription drug take back day. Next Saturday each location, in addition to the landfill, will take controlled and non-controlled pharmaceuticals for disposal. Officials say the

					<p>effort helps remove prescription opiates from communities and reduce the environmental hazards associated with improper disposal. The drugs can be dropped off between 10 and 2.</p>
<p>Wausau man dies in river</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/19/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Wausau police and firefighters were called to an area of the Wisconsin River along First Avenue early this morning. It was reported a man had fallen in with rescuers on scene behind East Bay about 1:45. The man's body was recovered about 15-minutes later. An autopsy is scheduled to determine the cause of death. The Lincoln County Sheriff's Department is looking for help to solve a hit and run case in the town of Merrill. Thousands of dollars in damage was discovered on the fence protecting the Merrill Airport sometime</p>

over the weekend of October third. Evidence at the scene suggest it was a black Chrysler Concord that should have significant damage. If you have any information about the incident you're asked to contact the Lincoln County Sheriff's office.

The body of an 11-year-old Italian girl murdered more than a century ago and declared a saint will be on display Friday at a Madison church that bears her name. Thousands are expected at St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church for public veneration. The youngster was stabbed by a neighbor during a sexual assault. She forgave her attacker on her deathbed and the Church declared her a saint in 1950.

The Boy Scouts of America's Central Region is expected to approve a plan to close

					two boy scout camps in Wisconsin. Declining attendance and financial losses are being blamed. Camp Mach-kin-o-Siew near Elcho, on Lake Enterprise, and Camp Shin-Go-Beek in Waupaca would close this year.
Wisconsinites are borrowing more money	News	10/12/15	1230,530p	1:30	Wisconsinites are taking another step forward in their consumer confidence by borrowing more money. The Federal Reserve shows Americans increased their borrowing to an all-time high of nearly three-and-a-half trillion dollars -- fueled by student-and-car loans, plus credit card debt. Some analysts say consumer lending is up 74-percent in the past year. New credit cards are up 20-percent, and people who have not used their home equity accounts for a while are doing so again. Credit card debt is up for the first time

since the Great Recession and experts say it's a good trend, because it shows people are more confident about managing their debt. A 50 year old man is dead after falling into the Wisconsin River in Wausau. Police were dispatched around 1:45 this morning to a call that a man had fallen off a railroad bridge along First Avenue into the water. His body was found downstream and he was pronounced dead at the scene. The cause is still under investigation.

More tea party conservatives are getting behind Wisconsin's Paul Ryan as the next Speaker of the House. On the Sunday T-V interview shows, Freedom Caucus members who helped encourage John Boehner to step aside vowed to support the Janesville Republican. The

					<p>question is whether they'd push for more control, similar to what they sought from Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy before he pulled away. The Freedom Caucus demanded a larger role in naming committee chairs, as well as holding more votes in the House on their proposals.</p>
<p>Wis. Dnr reacts strongly to court ruling</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/14/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>The DNR reacted sharply to yesterday's Federal Circuit Court decision allowing tribal night hunting in the state. US District Judge Barbara Crabb approved regulations allowing the state's Chippewa tribes to conduct night hunting for deer on lands open to the public in the ceded territory of the north. The season opens November first and the DNR is working to inform the public about the night hunting to minimize potential safety related issues.</p>

Concealed carry permit holders would be able to have their weapons with them on public college and university campuses in Wisconsin, under a bill being proposed by Republican lawmakers. Under current law, concealed weapons can be carried in university common areas by individuals with the proper license. However, each campus can make the decision to ban them from classrooms, university facilities, and dorms. UW officials were less than enthusiastic about the proposal. In a joint release, System President Ray Cross and chancellors said they have "significant concerns and questions with this proposal and cannot currently support it."

					<p>A 29-year old Woodruff man is wanted by Iron County authorities. Jason Sheehan faces charges of human trafficking and is not yet in custody. He's described as 6-feet, 168 pounds with brown hair and blue eyes. He's accused of abusing a deaf woman with neurological disorders. Two others are charged and in custody in connection with the case.</p> <p>Wausau Paper is being sold. Sweden-based SCA company offered \$513 million for the papermaker, founded in 1899. The deal is subject to shareholder and regulatory approval both expected early next year.</p>
<p>A gun shop owner must pay a big dollar amount</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/14/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>In only the second kind of case in the nation, a gun shop must pay nearly \$6-million after it was found negligent in selling a</p>

weapon used to shoot two Milwaukee police officers. That's what a jury ruled yesterday, when it found Badger Guns broke four sales-related laws when it sold a weapon to a man who later sold it to Julius Burton.

Investigators said Burton was too young to buy the gun on his own, and he used it to shoot and severely injure Milwaukee officer Bryan Norberg and former officer Graham Kunisch in 2007. Jurors heard two weeks of testimony and deliberated nine hours before deciding Badger Guns must pay Kunisch \$3.6 million dollars and Norberg \$1.5 million. The store also has to pay \$730,000 in punitive damages. Badger Guns promises to appeal.

U-S Senator Tammy Baldwin

says those who care for aging-and-disabled relatives need the government's help. During a visit to Wausau yesterday, the Wisconsin Democrat highlighted her bill to create a national plan on how to train family caregivers, provide support, and help with expenses like respite care. Baldwin says 578-thousand Wisconsin residents serve as primary caregivers to their older-and-disabled family members -- and they provide the equivalent of seven-billion dollars of health care each year. Baldwin says all those numbers will go up in the coming years, as more people than ever live beyond age-85. She cites a need for the U-S Health and Human Services Department to provide a national strategy.

Minocqua approves land purchase	News	10/15/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>Minocqua's town board approved a \$375,000 land purchase that will eventually hold a new fire department. Four acres, just south of the chamber office on Hwy 51, was chosen as the new site and plans are underway for the station. Board members said when those plans and costs are complete they'll come back to the voters for approval.</p> <p>A plea deal in August has a 32-year old Wausau man in prison for 40-years. John Lewis was convicted of second degree intentional homicide in the shooting death of 27-year old KC Elliot of Wausau. He was shot outside the Sidetracked Bar in Wausau in January of last year. Lewis was also ordered to pay nearly \$40,000 restitution for the victim's funeral and medical</p>
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expenses.

Two lanes of Hwy 29 west of Wausau were closed for a couple hours yesterday morning following a truck rollover. The rig tipped, spilling its load of logs onto the road shortly after 8:00. No one was hurt.

Women make up the fastest growing segment of new hunters in the state and a bill being considered in the Assembly would give them a new color option when it comes to picking out what they are wearing in the woods. Blaze pink would be added to the list of approved colors hunters wear for safety, instead of just the blaze orange that must make up at least half of each article of clothing above the waist. University of Wisconsin studies show blaze pink could be even

					more visible than blaze orange.
Hand sanitizer becoming a problem for youth	News	10/15/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>Because it smells good, it must taste good. That's what many kids are saying about hand sanitizer and getting poisoned because of it. 351 cases have already been reported this year in the state and nationally the numbers are worrying doctors climbing from 3000 in 2010 to more than 16-thousand last year. The symptoms of hand sanitizer poisoning are similar to that of alcohol poisoning: vomiting, passing out, or slow responses. Republican Scott Walker now says if he's re-elected governor in 2018, he won't try to juggle his state duties with another run for the White House. Walker has not indicated whether he'll seek a third four-year term as governor. But says if he</p>

				<p>runs and wins, he'd rule out seeking the presidency in 2020 while trying to run Wisconsin at the same time. Walker spent much of this year traveling in preparation for his White House bid, which ended a few weeks ago after less than two months as an official candidate. If Paul Ryan doesn't want the job, others say they'll take it. Several Republicans now say they're interested in taking the House speakership that Ryan of Janesville has been shying away from for a week. G-O-P representatives Mike Pompeo of Kansas and Ryan Zinke of Montana say they'll offer themselves as a replacement to the outgoing John Boehner. Republicans Bill Flores of Texas and Marsha Blackburn of Tennessee say they've been recruited by</p>
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					others -- and accept the challenge. Other names are also being bandied about.
Wis. Schools receiving state aid	News	10/16/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>Less than half of Wisconsin's public school districts will receive more state aid this year than they did last year. The state Department of Public Instruction released the aid figures yesterday, reporting 44 percent, or 186, of the state's 424 public school districts will see an aid increase. Rhinelander received one of the larger increases at nearly 22% or \$3.7-million. Administrators are quick to point out while the numbers look good on the surface, much of it is already spent to fund other programs that have been added or cut. Lac du Flambeau saw the largest increase in the state at 95%. Many smaller districts were on the other end with the Northland Pines district cut</p>

				<p>22% while Phelps, White Lake, Lakeland, Tomahawk and Elcho all received sizeable reductions. The total amount of money for school aid did not increase this year compared to last. Mills Fleet Farm announced it is taking the steps to sell its chain of stores to another firm or investor group. The Minnesota-based company employs nearly 6,000 people in 36 stores in a four state area. Officials said the move is necessary if the company wants to grow. The warehouse and distribution system are also in need to significant upgrades. With the proper modernization, Fleet Farm could potentially add three or four stores each year as part of its growth plan. Wisconsin experienced several seasons within an hour yesterday as sunshine gave way to clouds, high</p>
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					winds, heavy rain, hail and snow. A tornado was even sighted in the UP.
Wis assembly men looking to vote	News	10/16/15	1230p,530p	1:30	The Wisconsin Assembly is expected to vote Wednesday on disbanding the state Government Accountability Board. G-O-P Speaker Robin Vos says concerns from minority Democrats convinced him to delay the vote by a day. The measure would replace the G-A-B and its six retired judges with separate elections-and-ethics panels of political appointees. The bill was endorsed six-to-three yesterday by the Assembly Elections Committee with all Democrats voting no. The panel also endorsed a revised version of a campaign finance reform package letting individuals donate twice as much to state candidates as they do now.

				<p>At least one lawmaker says there are plenty of options for spending a 135-and-a-half million dollar surplus in the state's general fund for the fiscal year ending June 30th. Senate Republican Tom Tiffany of Hazelhurst expects his colleagues to decide whether to give the money back to taxpayers -- or restore funding to major items cut in the new state budget. The Administration Department credits higher tax revenues for the surplus, and lower-than-expected costs on state employees. They wiped out a projected 283-million dollar deficit for the state's main account. Tiffany says the numbers reflect at least some economic growth. Among the possibilities he cites are higher U-W and public school aid, transportation, expanding high-speed Internet service, and more</p>
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					<p>tax refunds.</p> <p>A missing hiker has been found alive in Upper Michigan near the Wisconsin border. Seventy-one year old John Niesman of Homer Glen, Illinois was reported missing Sunday when he failed to return to a motel in Land O'Lakes.</p>
<p>Several fires reported over the weekend</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/19/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Several fires were reported over the weekend. Late Saturday afternoon several structures and silos were damaged on a farm in the Lincoln county town of Scott. Officials said the blaze was triggered by a tractor. Also Saturday, several departments responded to a cabin fire, off Chokecherry Lane on Squaw Lake. A woodstove was the cause. The cabin was destroyed. And a chimney fire was also reported at a home on Spider Lake Road. Officials stressed with the arrival of</p>

the colder weather, to make sure all wood stoves, pipes and chimneys are cleaned and ready for use. Hundreds of volunteers jammed the cafeteria at Lakeland High School Saturday in the annual Food for Kidz drive and set a record in the process. The program packs meals for malnourished children overseas as well as locally. In its eighth year, they can now boast over one-millionth meals were packaged.

Improvements to the website are being given some of the credit for a record-setting list of more than 100-thousand open jobs by the Department of Workforce Development. That's the most since JobCenterOfWisconsin-dot-com was launched seven years ago. The state's unemployment rate of four-

				<p>point-three percent is at its lowest point in more than 14 years and an improvement from four-and-a-half percent in August. Last week's jobs report indicated the loss of 13-hundred private sector jobs in Wisconsin during September.</p> <p>State School Superintendent Tony Evers welcomes new members to his Advisory Council on Rural Schools, Libraries and Communities when they meet in Stratford this morning.</p>
<p>Lincoln Co. sheriff avoids injury</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/19/15/520p</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p> <p>The union leader at the Tomah V-A Medical Center reportedly tried to tell Congress about the center's over-prescription of painkillers in 2009, six years before the problem became public. U-S-A Today says it obtained memos about the subject. They showed they were</p>

				<p>"hand-delivered" to House Democrat Ron Kind, former House member Dave Obey and ex-Senator Russ Feingold. Now, however, the lawmakers say they don't remember receiving the memos. And union president Lin Ellinghuysen says there's no proof they were actually sent. She says her group "mistakenly operated on that assumption." Among other things, the alerts showed the Tomah V-A's former chief-of-staff ordered up to one-thousand narcotic pills each month for a single patient. The memos came long before Stevens Point Marine Jason Simcakoski died last year from a mix of drugs at Tomah. The V-A investigated -- and the center's director and chief-of-staff were removed. House Republicans are returning to Washington to</p>
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					<p>deal with a nearly unprecedented leadership dispute. Reportedly, Paul Ryan of Janesville is now considering a bid to replace outgoing House Speaker John Boehner. A Lincoln County sheriff's deputy escaped injury but his squad car wasn't so lucky. Responding to an accident Saturday night on Hwy 51 near County G just outside Merrill where a pickup struck a deer, the deputy was in his car typing information into his computer. As the tow company was loading the truck onto a flatbed trailer, the strap broke, sending the pickup into the parked patrol car.</p>
<p>Rhinelanders police working with area kids in the shop with a cop program</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/20/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>The state ended gas tax indexing nine years ago, but a state lawmaker continues to push an effort to bring it back. The indexing formula provides</p>

an automatic annual adjustment of the fuel tax. Representative Robb Kahl, a Monona Democrat, says the current approach pays for everything with bonding and is like putting the road repair bill on a credit card for his children and their children to pay. Kahl proposes a bill restoring the indexing of the gas tax beginning on May 1st, 2017. Any increase would go into effect only if the Joint Committee on Finance either approves the increase or takes no action. Kahl said Wisconsin has the lowest cost in the Midwest for motorists to own and operate a car when considering gas taxes, tolls, vehicle registration fees and other government fees and taxes.

The state Division of Forestry could still be moving to

northern Wisconsin. State Senator Tom Tiffany of Hazelhurst says much of the forestry activity happens in the north and the current budget directs the D-N-R to develop a plan to move the headquarters to a northern location. He says the idea remains under review for discussion before the next budget period begins in 2017.

Rhinelanders' Police and Fire Departments will again work with area schools for their "Shop with a Cop" program. In December they'll take a select group of less fortunate third graders Christmas shopping. Donations are needed to continue the program and can be dropped off or mailed to the Rhinelanders Police Department.

News

10/20/15

1230p,530p

1:30

Autopsy results today are

Autopsy of Wausau woman
found in her drive way

expected to determine the cause of death of a woman whose body was found in her Town of Wausau driveway yesterday. The Marathon County Sheriff's department reported the woman, in her 60s, was found around noon by a passerby. Officials believe the death to be suspicious. For the third time this year, a federal agency cited Wisconsin's Ashley Furniture for alleged workplace safety violations. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration announced a 431-thousand dollar fine yesterday involving the company's upholstery plant in Whitehall. OSHA says Ashley failed to prevent machines from starting up while employees were cleaning or unclogging them, or changing blades. The

company's legal counsel calls such a claim "outrageous" and promises to challenge the citations. Trucks from around Wisconsin brought boxes of unused prescriptions, collected during Saturday's state-wide drug take back event, to a drop off site in Waukesha County yesterday. A spokesperson for the Department of Justice, which organized the drug take back, said a total of 43-thousand pounds of prescription drugs were collected by 180 different law enforcement agencies around Wisconsin.

A federal judge denied a civil rights group's request to let voters use more forms of photo identification at the polls. The American Civil Liberties Union asked U.S. District Judge Lynn Adelman to declare

					<p>technical college IDs, out-of-state driver licenses and veterans photo IDs are acceptable forms of photo identification at the polls. Adelman refused. ACLU attorney Sean Young says the organization is considering its appeal options.</p>
<p>Rhinelanders voters will have a referendum in Feb.</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/21/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Voters in the Rhinelanders School District will see a referendum on the ballot in February. The school board approved a three year, \$5-million question that will cover most of the budget shortfall. The general fund will cover the balance. Meanwhile in Antigo, the school district is faced with declining enrollment and less funding and is thinking about closing a few or all of their elementary schools, of which there are seven, and consolidating them. The initial plans, presented to the public last night, met</p>

with mixed reaction. Administrators stressed they're weighing options right now and decisions will come after plenty of input from the district. Several fire departments were dispatched to a fully involved structure fire in Vilas County last night. Shortly before 9:30 the call for mutual aid came for the blaze on Hwy H. No other information is available. The theft of two utility vehicles from Trackside in Eagle River could be connected to similar crimes in the state. The Vilas County sheriff's office is assisting in a coordinated investigation. The machines were taken last week. The two UTV's are valued around \$34,000. Representative Paul Ryan of Wisconsin late last night said he'd run for House Speaker but only if certain

					<p>conditions are met. Currently chairman of the powerful Ways and Means Committee, Ryan said it was a reluctant decision and he wants to transform a broken congress based on the power of a few into a principle-based, member driven congress. He gave the House Republican Conference until tomorrow to accept his conditions.</p>
<p>State lawmakers expected to borrow money for state hiway projexts</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/21/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Governor Scott Walker expects a group of lawmakers from both parties to support the extra borrowing of 200-million dollars for highway projects. Walker's fellow Republicans have mixed reactions to the bonding, which the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee has the authority to approve as part of the two-year state budget. Assembly Finance co-chair John Nygren says he expects at least three of</p>

the four Democrats on his committee to join Republicans in the lower house to approve the extra borrowing. Senate Republicans continue to balk at the idea, saying it would be paid back with general tax dollars which are supposed to pay for other things, like schools. Both houses of the Wisconsin Legislature agreed to end secret John Doe investigations into political misconduct. Both the Assembly and Senate debated the measure for hours yesterday before the lower house passed the bill. A procedural maneuver blocked a Senate vote until early this morning. The measure was authored by Hazelhurst Republican Senator Tom Tiffany who said the bills open the process to greater accountability and

					<p>transparency.</p> <p>A Marathon County sheriff's deputy is recovering from injuries in a traffic crash that happened while he was responding to another accident. They happened around seven last night, one mile apart along Highway 107 near Marathon City. Wausau Police were called in to investigate, since another agency's emergency vehicle was involved. Officials say the deputy's squad car collided with another, and one person in each vehicle received apparent non-life-threatening injuries. Their names were not immediately release</p>
Crash kills Elcho man	News	10/22/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>A crash in the town of Enterprise killed an Elcho man. 67-year old Donald Pawlak died in the one vehicle accident Tuesday at the corner of highways</p>

45 and G. Three people were hurt in a crash on Hwy 17 northeast of Merrill yesterday. A rear end collision forced a vehicle to roll into the ditch.

Citing a decrease in patient numbers, Ministry Health Care is cutting 500 full-time jobs. Job consolidation will account for some of the positions while the provider also won't replace people who leave. Officials say the availability of medical services and procedures will not change. Ministry owns 15 hospitals and 46 clinics in Wisconsin, including facilities in Wausau, Tomahawk, Rhinelander, Merrill, Eagle River and Woodruff.

Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker's approval numbers remain low, according to findings of the latest survey from the St. Norbert College

Strategic Research Center. [The Wisconsin Survey](#) shows only 39 percent think Walker is doing a good job. His disapproval rating was 60 percent. The survey also shows that 62 percent don't want him to run for a third term as governor, in 2018. In Wisconsin's race for U.S. Senate next year, the poll shows Democratic challenger Russ Feingold has an 11-point lead over incumbent Republican Senator Ron Johnson.

Highway J opens this morning, ahead of schedule. Anyone traveling to or from the Minocqua area knows the popular shortcut between Hwys 51 and 47 north of the city. It's been closed for a month while crews resurfaced it and improved utilities.

An early morning fire destroyed a Merrill home. The blaze was reported on east first street in the city. Officials say the roof collapsed and garage was damaged. Firefighters got the call for a structure fire about three this morning.

Wisconsin's Paul Ryan is a big step closer to becoming the next U-S House speaker. Most of the chamber's hard-line conservative Freedom Caucus came out in favor of the Janesville Republican last night. But they did not have the 80-percent support needed for an official endorsement.

The proposed changes in the hiring-and-firing process for 30-thousand state government jobs could be

Early morning fire destroys Merrill home

News

10/22/15

1230p,530p

1:30

delayed until after the holidays. Committees in both the Assembly and Senate endorsed the Republican civil service package last night. The bill would eliminate civil service exams, clarify conditions for firing workers, and shorten the appeals process for those disciplined. The G-O-P says it would be easier for the state to hire good people. Democrats say it would lead to cronyism.

Rhineland is again designated "Tree City USA" status for the year. An Arbor Day event commemorated the award this morning at Nativity School downtown where two Japanese Lilacs were planted to honor the occasion.

					<p>For the second drawing in a row, somebody won the Wisconsin Megabucks jackpot. A ticket sold in Coleman matched all six numbers in last night's drawing to win the minimum top prize of one-million dollars. It's four days after a ticket sold in Sheboygan won two-point-six million in the Wisconsin-only Megabucks game. That prize remains unclaimed.</p>
<p>Area fire dept. dispatched to local fire</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/23/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Firefighters from Three Lakes, Sugar Camp and Eagle River were dispatched to a cabin fire early this morning. Little information is available about the blaze, reported about 3:15, on Birchmore road, off county X in Three Lakes.</p> <p>Foul play was ruled out in the death of a woman northeast of Wausau. A</p>

passerby found the body of 67-year-old Eileen Wendt lying in her driveway Monday. Officials considered the death suspicious, until an autopsy showed Wendt had a blocked artery in one of her lungs.

A Merrill man gets a prison term. 49-year old Evan Mooney was sentenced to eight years yesterday for killing 86-year old John Dick/tanas with his car as he was walking along a road in Rothschild in October of 2013. Mooney had several controlled substances in his system at the time.

The next speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives may end up being from Wisconsin. Republican Congressman Paul Ryan announced late yesterday in a letter to his House colleagues that he will run

					<p>for the position. Ryan's decision comes just weeks after he repeatedly said he was not interested in the position. However, as no other strong candidate emerged to replace outgoing Speaker John Boehner, pressure mounted on the former vice presidential nominee to reconsider.</p> <p>A state Senate committee advanced a pair of bills making controversial changes to the Government Accountability Board and to campaign finance laws, although the future of the proposals remains unclear. Both bills are identical to those approved in the state Assembly earlier this week.</p>
<p>Crandon schools dealing with viral meningitis</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/23/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>The Crandon School District is dealing with several cases of viral meningitis. Classes have taken place as normal, with only a handful</p>

of youngsters absent. Four cases were reported this week, as of Wednesday. Crandon Superintendent Doug Kryder says numerous rooms, lockers, and athletic bottles have been cleaned. Some teachers have put hand sanitizers in their classrooms for youngsters to use. The viral meningitis at Crandon has resulted in flu-like symptoms and is much less severe than bacterial meningitis, which can be deadly.

The state fire marshal is aiding Merrill firefighters to find the cause of a blaze at a home early yesterday morning. Merrill officials said things appear suspicious. The home, at 1900 East First Street in the city was destroyed. Arson hasn't been totally ruled out. No one was injured. John Deere is starting to expand a plant in Horicon

that makes recreational utility vehicles. State and local leaders helped the company break ground for a 388-thousand square foot expansion of the Horicon Works plant to accommodate the growing market for Deere's gator utility vehicles.

The state's largest annual farm show will return to the Marshfield area in three years. It was announced yesterday the Daryl and Brenda (Stern'-wyss) family will host the 2018 Wisconsin Farm Technology Days just west of Marshfield -- along with the neighboring (hy'-man) family which owns Nasonville Dairy. For more than six decades, the show has traveled throughout the state to feature different types of farming. Walworth County is the host next year, and Kewaunee County in 2017.

Gov. Walker signs some legislation	News	10/26/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>Governor Scott Walker signed legislation preventing the future use of John Doe proceedings to investigate cases of political misconduct. The changes come after two highly controversial cases involving the secret probes, which targeted the governor, employees in the Milwaukee County executive's office when he held the position and conservative political groups. Republicans contend the changes were needed because of how the John Doe process was abused by prosecutors. Democrats argue the changes will make it harder to root out political corruption, because the John Doe provides a layer of protection to targets in order to keep details from becoming public. Prosecutors will still be able</p>
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to use them to investigate drug crimes and violent felonies.

A 20-year old Stevens Point man is in jail after an investigation determined he was drunk at the time he reported a boating accident on the Wisconsin River. There was no accident. The man entered the Verso Power Plant early yesterday morning, caused some damage then fell into the river. Several departments responded to the call of a boat striking the dam and capsizing.

Lower natural gas prices and a warmer forecast for winter temperatures are why Xcel Energy is telling its customers their heating costs may be 20-to-25 percent lower this time. The average residential customer paid 665 dollars

					for heat last winter. Xcel says the cost could be below 500 dollars this winter. Wisconsin Public Service is slightly more conservative, projecting an 18 percent drop in those costs. We Energies also predicts an 18 percent savings over last year.
Rhinelanders men face charges for night hunting deer	News	10/26/15	1230p,530p	1:30	Two Rhinelanders men face numerous charges for night hunting deer. Two calls came from people in the Harrison area last Monday reporting about 1:30 am, a truck slowed down, shined a light into a field and shot. The 22 and 23 year olds are charged with hunting with an artificial light, hunting during a closed season, possessing an untagged deer, possessing and discharging a firearm from a vehicle, hunting within 50-feet of the center line and trespassing. A second complaint for

shooting after hours came into Lincoln County authorities Saturday that led to the arrest of three others. Similar charges plus drug possession are pending. A U-W Madison expert says we could soon see extinct species coming back to life. Professor emeritus Stanley Temple says the technology is already here or on the horizon, for what he calls "de-extinction." Temple says techniques such as cloning exist, but a more cutting-edge technology called "synthetic biology" is almost ready. D-N-A from extinct species will be genetically-engineered into living species. He says the returns of Woolly Mammoths and Passenger Pigeons is not likely. Temple says the best candidates are those that were sheltered prior to extinction and stored in a way to make their "de-

					<p>extinction" possible. Temple will speak on the subject November fourth in a series called "Science On Tap" at the Minocqua Brewing Company. You can find out more on the program's website at Minocqua-Dot-Org.</p> <p>Wisconsin's two biggest lotto games have jackpots above 100-million dollars. Mega Millions is at 117-million for tomorrow night. Powerball is 110-million for Wednesday.</p>
<p>Kaukauna man freed on cash bond for break in of Rhinelander home</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/27/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>A 38-year-old Kaukauna man is free on \$5,000 cash bond on allegations he broke into and stole items from a rural Rhinelander home owned by two people killed in March. According to the Oneida County Sheriff's Department Mark Spietz is accused of taking numerous items belonging to Thomas and Jennifer Ayers. Their</p>

daughter, Ashley Martinson, is charged with the deaths and remains in custody. Spietz is charged with three counts of burglary, theft, and using someone's ID to obtain money.

Investigators said all the stolen property has been recovered and he's back in court November 9th.

Funding and support for Downtown Rhinelander, Incorporated was effectively stopped earlier this year and the organization will move into 2016 without its executive director. Citing funding cuts, DRI president Dan Kuzlik said with more than half their funding gone, local businesses and other community groups would now pick up running the list of downtown events and fundraising efforts.

Republicans in the Wisconsin state Senate

					<p>canceled today's floor session. The members were expected to be in Madison to vote on a proposed calendar that included multiple appointments and nearly two dozen bills.</p> <p>Plans to renovate and add to the Waaswaaganing Indian Bowl in Lac du Flambeau took a leap forward with a \$300,000 grant from the Department of Health and Human Services. Coupled with previous funding of \$1-million, groundbreaking for the facility is planned for spring. The second phase of the project includes the Living Arts and Culture Center to honor the heritage and tradition of the tribe.</p>
Man in court for vandalizing paper mill	News	10/27/15	1230p,530p	1:30	A man accused of vandalizing and cutting off power to a paper mill, while claiming he fell from a boat

that never capsized, appeared in court for the first time. Twenty-year-old Zachary Linzmeier of Wisconsin Rapids was put under a five-thousand dollar bond yesterday. He's due back in Portage County Circuit Court November ninth. Prosecutors expect to file criminal charges by then. Authorities say Linzmeier was intoxicated when he fell into the Wisconsin River in Stevens Point early Sunday, and called rescuers to have them save two relatives after their boat capsized. Police say the man's story did not add up, and the two he claimed were in the water were actually home at the time. Also, police say Linzmeier damaged several windows at the Verso paper mill and cut off power generation to the plant for two hours, by

					<p>moving levers in a hydro-electric unit.</p> <p>Democrats say paid family leave is the first thing Paul Ryan should put up for a vote if he's elected the new House speaker this week. The Janesville Republican has been criticized for guarding his weekend family time back home -- and granting paid family leave for his staff -- while opposing a requirement that the private sector offer the same thing. In Racine yesterday, Democrats and family advocates called Ryan out. His office says he does support compensatory time for family matters in lieu of time-and-a-half overtime -- with the unused benefit to be paid at the end of each year. Democrats oppose that.</p>
State students participating in school vouchers	News	10/28/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	The number of students participating in Wisconsin's

statewide private school voucher program has more than doubled, since enrollment caps were lifted. Figures released by the state Department of Public Instruction show 2,514 students were enrolled in a voucher school for the current year, up from 1,008 students last year when the cap was in place. The vouchers are worth over \$7,000 a year to students through grade eight, and nearly \$8,000 for high school students. The total cost for the statewide program this school year was \$18.3 million. There are only three schools in this area, serving 132 students in Lincoln and Marathon counties.

Construction may be five years out but the Department of Transportation is already

planning for changes to highway accesses in Merrill. Several plans were unveiled last night at a public meeting for proposed work on the intersection of Hwy 17 and County W as well as the connection of Hwys 51 and 64 east of the city. Suggestions run from adding stoplights to roundabouts, costing roughly four million dollars. The DOT meanwhile is putting the squeeze on the Vilas County town of Lincoln. There are streetlights along a portion of Hwy 45 north of Eagle River that haven't been on for over two years. They were originally installed in 2001 and now the department, citing safety concerns, removed them and passed the bill onto the town. Officials there say they don't have the money and the lights have never

					<p>been an issue before. They're now contemplating legal action.</p>
<p>Paul Ryan to voted on for speaker of the house</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/29/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>A vote is expected today to elect Wisconsin Congressman Paul Ryan as Speaker of the House. The Janesville Republican said last night he plans to, in his words, turn the page by moving forward and unifying the party and to do the people's business. Cities big and small always feel the impact of a major business closing, but it's tougher on a small ones. Phillips is dealing with that right now with the closing of the Georgia-Pacific plant. That's a loss of over \$8-million and 83 people to the Price County community, where officials are looking just what the impact will be. Area businesses are already hiring displaced workers. The health departments in Forest, Oneida and Vilas</p>

				<p>counties are working with Ministry Health Care to improve services. The community health assessment is looking for input on various health related topics to better inform county health programming decisions and aid in the development of an overall plan. Residents are asked to take part in a survey in an effort to get as much data as possible. They're available at area libraries, churches, chambers and city offices. The survey is also online at the ministry health website. Responses will be collected through November.</p> <p>A Madison attorney will join the field of candidates running for a seat on the state Supreme Court next year. Claude Covelli is the fourth person to announce he will run for the high court. The others are</p>
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					Justice Rebecca Bradley, Appeals Court Judge JoAnne Kloppenburg and Milwaukee Circuit Judge Joe Donald.
Fire guts rural Merrill home	News	10/29/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>Fire this morning gutted a rural Merrill home. The Lincoln County Sheriff's office reported the fire just before six on Lokemoen Road, off Hwy 107 northwest of Merrill. No one was home at the time. Smoke detectors could be heard when firefighters arrived and the flames were already visible on the top floor. What caused the fire is under investigation.</p> <p>It's been almost three weeks since a central Wisconsin high school freshman was last seen by her family and friends. Fourteen-year-old Mackenzie Marken of Weston has not been home since October eleventh,</p>

and authorities are asking for people's help in finding her. Marken is a freshman at Mosinee High School, and considered a runaway. Marathon County sheriff's deputy Matt Anderson says it's very unusual that a teen has been missing for so long -- especially with today's social media and Internet chatter.

Dozens of hunters urged a state committee to beef up a law that makes it illegal to interfere with hunters, anglers and trappers. The Assembly's Sporting Heritage panel held a public hearing on a bill to prohibit people from photographing hunters, being in their lines-of-sight, and confronting them. The bill was introduced after anti-wolf hunting activists filmed hunters last year in Wisconsin and Montana.

					<p>A federal judge later ended the wolf hunts and placed the animals back on the endangered species list. Now, bear hunters fear the same types of harassment. Those who oppose the bill say hunters are already protected by laws against stalking.</p>
<p>GM will probably never return to Janesville</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/30/15</p>	<p>6320a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>A pending deal will leave virtually no chance General Motors will ever resume operations at its Janesville plant. The tentative agreement between the United Auto Workers and GM moves the plant off a list of properties under moratorium from closure or sale. The plant was idled in 2009. The deal includes raises, health care improvements and signing bonuses for workers. The Janesville plant originally opened in 1919.</p> <p>Studies show downtown</p>

Wausau business draws from as far away as the Lakeland area and that includes the Wausau Center Mall. The facility has been struggling, as have city leaders trying to pump up the business district. There are now some ideas and they'll be laid out at a public forum Monday night at the Civic Engagement Theater at UW-Marathon County.

Speaking of Wausau business, the seventh Kwik Trip opened on Grand Avenue yesterday, about a mile and a half from another one. The convenience store chain has nearly 300 stores across Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa. Plans for additional Rhinelander locations continue.

The Wheaton Franciscan

					<p>Sisters say their health care business will be transferred in early 2016. Wheaton says its Southeast Wisconsin region will join Ascension in the first quarter of next year. Ascension is billed as the world's largest Catholic health system, as well as the largest nonprofit health system in the United States, which includes the Ministry facilities. The company operates 129 hospitals and more than 30 senior care facilities in 24 states and the District of Columbia.</p>
<p>Hurley's drinking water under investigation</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>10/30/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Hurley's drinking water was found to violate federal-and-state chemical standards. The D-N-R says water samples have unsafe levels of two types of acids, which can be created when organic matter mixes with chlorine. Officials are looking for the cause and point to a stagnant water</p>

				<p>supply caused by a large reduction in usage. Three-or-four major customers have shut down due to economic conditions. Hurley is examining supplies from communities it buys water from -- Montreal, Wisconsin and Ironwood, Michigan. Hurley gets 100-thousand gallons a day from those two communities.</p> <p>Investigators with the Merrill Fire Department continue searching for the cause of a blaze that destroyed a rural home early yesterday morning. The loss of the home, which was empty and for sale, was put over \$175,000.</p> <p>Wisconsin's Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection reached a settlement with American Broadband and Telecommunications Company for violations of</p>
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					<p>the state's Do Not Call Law. The Ohio-based firm allegedly made telemarketing calls in the state without registering. They also called residents registered on the Do Not Call list. The company paid \$75,000 in civil forfeitures and fees and will discontinue the calls. If you have a busy Halloween coming up, you'll be glad to know you'll get an extra hour to recover. Daylight Saving Time ends at two a-m on Sunday and you're reminded to set your clocks back one-hour before you go to bed tomorrow night. You're also reminded to check the batteries in those smoke and carbon monoxide detectors heading into the heating season.</p>
Interview	Phone	10/15/15	740a	3 min.	Talked to John Brieten from the Food For Kidz organization about the upcoming packing of food at LHS

Interview	Phone	10/16/15	835a	3 min	Talked to Mike Van Meter from the Arbor Vitae Fire Dept. about the Open house for the community
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Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Station: wmqa
Quarter: 4th (nov)
Year: 2015

<i>ISSUE DESCRIPTION</i>	<i>PROGRAM SEGMENT</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>TIME</i>	<i>DURATION</i>	<i>DESCRIPTION OF SEGMENT</i>
Republicans planning on a bill concerning food stamps	News	11/2/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>Republicans in the Wisconsin Assembly plan to pass a series of bills affecting food stamp recipients when they gather at the Capitol tomorrow. Three of the measures target people who take part in FoodShare. The fourth bill would stop unemployment benefits for seven years if a person pretends to be someone else or lies when applying. Advocates for the poor say this will make it harder for people in need to get food. Republicans say they are not trying to hurt poor people, just those who get</p>

				<p>benefits they are not entitled to receive. Fire Saturday night destroyed the Salem Baptist Church in Ashland and police have made an arrest. No one was hurt and church officials are meeting today to discuss how to move forward. Wausau Police last night arrested an intoxicated man for jumping the fence at the airport. He was being checked into a nearby health center when he took off and scaled the fence around 6:30. Police caught him on the runway. Operations at the airport were not disrupted. Trespassing charges are pending. The Community Warming Center in Merrill opened yesterday. Operating in the old Lincoln County Bank drive up building, the center provides warm</p>
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					<p>snacks and a place to spend the night. Run by the United Way, volunteers are being sought as is prepackaged food. The Center is open nightly from 8pm to 730am.</p> <p>Brown County officials believe renaming Austin Straubel Airport, the third busiest airport in the state, will bring more travelers to the area. That's the subject of a meeting next month. .</p>
Paul Ryan makes tv appearance	News	11/2/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>New House Speaker Paul Ryan went on the weekend T-V news shows to justify his family time in Janesville -- while insisting it does not equate to making businesses give mandated family leave to their workers. Democrats are calling Ryan a hypocrite for refusing to give up his own weekend family time while taking on the extra duties of speaker -- and not supporting a law to make</p>

employers pay their workers for family leave. The Republican Ryan said he was not elected speaker to take more money from taxpayers to create a new unfunded "federal entitlement."

The state Legislature's Joint Finance Committee meets Wednesday to consider borrowing an extra 200-million dollars to shorten delays in some major highway projects. It's uncertain whether majority Republicans have enough votes to push through the borrowing. Governor Scott Walker and the D-O-T are both pushing for the funding.

Wisconsin's Government Accountability Board says Gov. Scott Walker's campaign has failed to provide employer information for nearly 6,000 contributors last year, the

					<p>most of any campaign committee. The board hasn't penalized him or any other committee that failed to report the missing information because officials say they have made efforts to comply with the law that requires the information.</p> <p>For the second time in ten days, somebody won the Wisconsin Megabucks jackpot. A ticket sold in Wabeno matched all six numbers to win a one-million-dollar top prize Saturday night. In Powerball, nobody won, so it goes up to 142-million dollars for Wednesday night. Mega Millions is at 144-million dollars for tomorrow night.</p>
Patrol cars in Vilas Co. equipped with CPR units	News	11/3/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>Communities across Texas have been battered by a series of severe storms resulting in tornadoes, flash flooding and power</p>

				<p>outages. Residents have been forced out of their homes as the damage figures continue to grow. Trained Red Cross responders from Wisconsin are flying to Austin this morning to support the disaster relief efforts including Carol Miller, an Oneida County Nurse. She'll join more than 200 Red Cross staff and volunteers working with government officials in Texas.</p> <p>Patrol cars in the Vilas County Sheriff's Department are now equipped with new CPR devices. The CPR RsQ Assist devices are hands only, chest compression units making it much easier and less stressful for the user and ultimately more beneficial for the victim. The department also purchased additional units for the jail.</p>
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				<p>A state lawmaker from Marshfield, who serves on the Assembly's Transportation Committee, will head up a national trucking industry group. Republican Representative John Spiros was elected to a two-year term as president of the Trucking Industry Defense Association. The group serves the trucking industry in the United States and Canada regarding safety and claims issues.</p> <p>If spending Thanksgiving with Brett Favre and Bart Starr is on your bucket list, here's your chance as tickets go on sale today for the annual Rawhide Boys Ranch Chalk Talk in Green Bay. The event will pay tribute to Bart and his wife Cherry for their support of the organization. Starr has been in failing health but hopes to attend. Tickets will</p>
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					be available online at Ticket Star.
Night deer gun hunts	News	11/3/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>After winning a three-year court battle, Chippewa Indians are apparently waiting for better conditions before they go out to shoot deer at night in northern Wisconsin. A two-month season began Sunday. The Great Lakes Indian Fish-and-Wildlife Commission says one hunter shot a doe in Douglas County and just one other hunter had a required shooting plan approved. The rules also require the Chippewa to complete hunter safety courses and pass marksmanship tests. About 30 people have accomplished both of those -- and their shooting plans are still pending. Hunters like snow on the ground so they can see the deer tracks. But it's almost shirt-sleeve weather this</p>

week, with highs today expected from the upper-50s to around 70 throughout Wisconsin under clear skies. The special Chippewa night hunt is in the ceded territory where the tribes can exercise century-old hunting-and-fishing treaty rights off their reservations.

Raw-milk lovers will try again to legalize it in Wisconsin. Assembly Republican David Murphy of Greenville says people should have the freedom to buy unpasteurized milk directly from farms. Those who drink it cite health benefits not found in the pasteurized product. Shawn Pfaff of the Wisconsin Safe Milk Coalition says raw milk is not safe -- and there's no way it can be made safe. Governor Scott Walker's office says he'll review a raw bill if it reaches

					his desk -- but as in the past, it would need safeguards to protect people's health and the integrity of the dairy industry.
Crandon teen pleads in court	News	11/4/16	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>A Crandon teen pleads guilty following a fatal traffic accident last year. 19-year old Austin Ginter was the driver of car travelling well over 100 mph when he crashed west of Crandon last July, killing one passenger and injuring another. He was charged with vehicular homicide and second degree recklessly endangering safety and will be sentenced January 15th in Forest County court. Several felonies face a 45-year old Merrill woman after she allegedly tried to suffocate a man. Stacey Hansen is accused of abusing and putting a plastic bag over the head of a 76-year old man. He</p>

				<p>was found with no pulse but later recovered in the hospital. She's in the Lincoln County jail charged with first degree intentional homicide, battery among others. Bond was set at \$100,000 and she's back in court on Monday. Wausau Police had to fight off one of five people during a traffic stop that developed into a drug bust. Officials noted an outstanding warrant and suspended license for the driver when the vehicle was pulled over. Initially no one identified themselves and wouldn't cooperate. Heroin was found after a search. Three were arrested and two hospitalized for drug ingestion. The officer was not seriously hurt. The state assembly yesterday advanced several measures. Blaze</p>
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					<p>pink would be added to blaze orange as a color for hunter safety and attracting more women to the sport, there would be tougher penalties for unemployment fraud and changes in the FoodShare program. The bills now head to the Senate.</p>
<p>Major utility upgrades for Rhinelander in the new year</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>11/4/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>The Wisconsin Senate votes Friday on its own version of bills to disband the non-partisan Government Accountability Board and change campaign finance laws. Majority Republicans discussed the measures in a closed caucus yesterday. Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald says the proposed changes would not be made public until tomorrow, a day before the Senate meeting.</p> <p>Next year the city of Rhinelander will begin</p>

major utility upgrades and other projects in the downtown business district. At the same time improvements to the area will also take place. Those improvements have been and remain in the planning stages with the latest information coming tomorrow in a meeting of the Downtown Economic and Brown Street Streetscape Study Special Committee. City leaders know the disruption will cause problems for businesses and one of them, Sew Smart, is moving to the Walmart Plaza next week. The meeting is at city hall at 1:00.

Two people face charges in Stevens Point, after they allegedly brought in a large amount of medical marijuana from a Western state where it's legal.

					<p>Officers from four agencies executed a search warrant at a house across from Stevens Point Area Senior High School and confiscated 17 pounds of pot with a street value of 100-thousand dollars. They also seized 65-hundred dollars.</p> <p>George Howen of Long Lake claimed the one-million dollar Wisconsin Megabucks jackpot. He bought the winning ticket at Krist Food Mart in Wabeno, which gets a 20-thousand dollar commission for selling it. Tonight's Powerball jackpot is 12-million and Friday's Mega Million catch is 159-million.</p>
Hancock man pleads in court	News	11/5/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	29-year old William Babik of Hancock pleaded guilty to charges of attempting to recruit young girls to work in adult movies. Child

				<p>enticement and drug charges will stand with several others dropped as part of the deal. Babik was accused of contacting six girls between the ages of 12 and 15 on Facebook. He's back in Marathon County Court in January.</p> <p>Rumors of a threat and arrests at Merrill High School are false. Police there said talk began several weeks ago but nothing is credible and no weapons were found. The Facebook page for the department addresses the issue.</p> <p>Work is expected to begin next year in Wausau for the East Riverfront Redevelopment project, what's been described as the largest and most expensive housing development in the city's history. City leaders looked at two proposals last night that included nearly 300</p>
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					<p>luxury, multi-family housing units in addition to business space. Costs run between 50 and 80 million dollars. The DNR confirmed a mule deer was taken by a bow hunter in northwest Wisconsin. A hunter contacted the agency last week after he shot the buck near Amery and discovered it wasn't a whitetail. Mule deer are not native to the state and the only other one on record was taken in southwest Wisconsin in 1988. The animals are typically found in the western US and parts of Canada and Mexico. It's not a protected species and anyone with a hunting license and buck tag can take one.</p>
Oscar Meyer to leave Madison	News	11/5/15	1230p,530p	1:30	Oscar Mayer has been a presence in Wisconsin since 1919 but no longer. The hot dog and meat plant in Madison will be closing over

				<p>the next two years putting nearly 700 people out of work. Another 300 corporate positions will move to Chicago, where owner Kraft=Heinz will move its US meat headquarters. Madison is one of seven plants to close. Meanwhile, Target plans to close 13 stores nationwide, including one two in Milwaukee and Superior. The Minneapolis-based retailer says a decision to close a store usually follows several years of decreasing profitability. The retail giant plans to close the stores at the end of January. The 13 are among Target's nearly 1,800 stores in the U.S. Target was hurt by a massive credit-card breach before Christmas of 2013 that sent shoppers temporarily fleeing. The company also botched a major expansion into</p>
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Canada earlier this year. Layoffs in 2015 included 2,500 jobs, or about one-fifth of the workers in the company's corporate offices in Minneapolis and Brooklyn Park.

A head on crash south of Wausau this morning injured two people. Just after 7:30 emergency crews needed the jaws of life to remove one of the drivers. The accident happened near the intersection of Rainbow Drive and Hwy XX, which was closed in both directions while officials worked at the scene. Authorities said one of the drivers may have fallen asleep.

You didn't win the Powerball jackpot unless you bought your ticket in Tennessee. A player there matched all the numbers last night to win 144-million dollars.

<p>A new hotel comes to Wausau</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>11/6/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Rhinelanders' City Council will react to an advisory referendum earlier this spring that endorsed a premier resort area tax. When they meet Monday night, if the measure to levy a half-percent sales tax passes, voters will see it again at the primary election in April. The tax would generate nearly half a million dollars annually with the funds going initially to repair the city's ailing roads. Eagle River assessed the tax nearly a decade ago.</p> <p>A new 100-room hotel is coming to the Wausau area. The Hilton Garden Inn will sit where the old Howard Johnson's has been in Rib Mountain for more than 40-years. The property also includes Emma Krumbiege's which will also be closed and torn down. Nearly 75 people will</p>
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lose their jobs but developers say as many as 35 of them may transition to the new hotel.

Construction is expected to begin in spring with completion set for mid-2017. Wausau-based Ghidorzi is developing the project and meets with officials from the Town of Rib Mountain to review plans next week.

This year's state Capitol Christmas tree will be a 40-foot balsam fir from Rhinelander. Governor Scott Walker's office announced that Brad and Elizabeth Kowieski, along with their family, donated the tree, which was planted by Brad on Arbor Day in 1985.

The tree, a yearly fixture during the holiday in the Capitol rotunda, will be decorated this year with ornaments highlighting

					Wisconsin sports, created by school students from across the state. The tree goes up after Thanksgiving.
Reid Ribble in the news	News	11/6/15	1230p,530p	1:30	House Republican Reid Ribble of northeast Wisconsin will be part of a congressional conference panel which has just two weeks to agree to a new federal transportation package. If they don't reach a deal by November 20th, federal highway funds could be temporarily cut off. The House approved its version of the six-year, 325-billion dollar package yesterday. It passed, with all eight Wisconsin members voting yes. The Senate endorsed a different package earlier. Ribble tried-but-failed to pass an amendment to raise weight limits for trucks on federal highways. Wausau Republican Sean Duffy

managed to add heavier weights for logging trucks on 12 miles of Interstate-39 in Marathon County, to get those vehicles off roads that go through smaller towns. Both houses voted to require funding for the first half of the six-year deal. The House version mandates that Congress come up with a funding package for the final three years -- while the Senate voted to keep Congress out of that. There's also talk about raising the federal gas tax, which is not raising enough to meet highway needs around the country.

A newly released report shows Wisconsin sports teams cashing in on Pentagon contracts. It's called "paid patriotism, totalling \$10.4 million between 2012 and 2015 nationally.

The contracts included

					<p>teams in the NFL, MLB, NBA, NHL and Major League Soccer.</p> <p>The Green Bay Packers netted \$200,000 last season. The Brewers were paid \$80,000. And the University of Wisconsin received \$170,000 for activities including game day presentations, signage, announcements, and radio broadcast recognition.</p>
<p>Minocqua Chamber Of Commerce to talk about Beef A Rama</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>11/9/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>The state Senate worked into the early morning hours Saturday to pass a pair of controversial Republican-authored bills. Senators voted shortly before midnight Friday to pass a major rewrite to campaign finance law in Wisconsin and passed a measure to dismantle the Government Accountability Board some two-and-a-half hours later. The Assembly passed both bills last month. Democrats</p>

said there was little support for the bill among voters telling their GOP counterparts , “Folks are not buying what you’re selling on this stuff.” Hazelhurst Republican Senator Tom Tiffany said the reforms will create two bi-partisan commissions to oversee elections and ethics issues.

Leaders of the Minocqua Chamber of Commerce and the town meet next week in an effort to reaffirm the support of the community's signature summer event, Beef-a-Rama. Last month the chamber circulated a survey to select members asking if the 50-year old event should be continued or moved from downtown. Reaction was swift and the Chamber and its board of directors apologized for the way the issue was handled.

				<p>The community event draws tens of thousands of people to town at the end of September. The meeting takes place next Tuesday.</p> <p>Mandy Wright of Wausau lost her 85th assembly seat a year ago and she wants it back. The high school teacher announced yesterday she's going to run again for the chance to represent Wausau and part of Marathon county. Wright lost to Republican Dave Heaton by 86 votes last year after one term in office. The general election is in November.</p>	
Lincoln Co. jail inmate facing charges	News	11/9/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>An inmate at the Lincoln County Jail is facing felony charges after attacking two corrections officers yesterday morning. The district attorney will review two counts of battery by a prisoner against the 50-year old Michigan man. One of</p>

the officers was treated and released from the emergency room for their injuries.

A panelist for tomorrow night's G-O-P presidential debate in Milwaukee says she wants to hear more from the candidates on jobs and economic growth. Fox Business Network anchor Maria Bartiromo says after three debates, there's no clear idea how the Republicans will deal with jobs. She calls it "the most important issue on voters' minds." Fox Business anchor Neil Cavuto and Wall Street Journal editor Gerard Baker will also be on the panel, which starts at eight tomorrow night on the Fox Business Channel and its website. A smaller group of eight candidates will take part in the main event. Four others will be in a preliminary forum beginning

					<p>at six. The Wisconsin debate comes a month-and-a-half after Governor Scott Walker pulled out of the Republican race.</p> <p>None of the one-thousand gallons of crude oil spilled from a Canadian Pacific Railroad train derailment in Watertown reached water. It happened about two yesterday afternoon. Thirteen cars jumped the tracks and officials say all of the spilled oil has been contained. This was the second derailment in the state over the weekend. More than 18-thousand gallons of ethanol spilled from a Burlington Northern train near Alma in far western Wisconsin.</p>
Premier resort tax to be voted on	News	11/10/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	The final step to add a Premier Resort Area Tax to Rhinelander businesses goes back to the voters in spring. The city council last night unanimously passed

				<p>the measure, sending to what will be a binding referendum in April. There was overwhelming support for the additional half percent tax in an advisory vote last spring. The funds will go directly in infrastructure repair, initially to work on the city's deteriorating roads.</p> <p>The Merrill woman accused of trying to kill a 78-year old man by suffocating him pleads not guilty. 45-year old Stacy Hansen is charged with first degree intentional homicide, strangulation, aggravated battery and more in the October 29th incident when she allegedly placed a plastic bag over the man's head. Authorities found him with no pulse but were able to revive him.</p> <p>Hansen's still in the Lincoln County Jail on a \$100,000 cash bond and will be back</p>
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					<p>in court December 10th. The Fab Lab in the Three Lakes School District is one of seven in the state being recognized in the, Stand Up for Rural Wisconsin award. The project is the first digital fab lab facility in the state providing 3D modeling and 3D printing technology, chartered by MIT. It's not only used by students but has partnerships with UW-Stout, Demmer Memorial Library, Three Lakes Planning Commission, model railroad club and a number of business partners. The award is presented tomorrow morning in Stevens Point to demonstrate the great potential and collaborative spirit of rural Wisconsin.</p>
Rhinelander's streetscape project gets another look	News	11/11/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>The top contenders in the Republican presidential race frequently clashed on a wide range of issues, during a debate in</p>

Milwaukee Tuesday night that focused heavily on the policy proposals of the candidates. The candidates traded jabs on issues such as immigration, tax reform, homeland security, and foreign policy. One area where the candidates did show agreement were calls for a \$15 minimum wage, which led off the questions for the evening. Trump, Ben Carson, and Florida Senator Marco Rubio all voice opposition to the idea, with Rubio saying their needs to more of a focus on areas such as helping businesses create jobs and expanding vocational training, saying "We need more welders and less philosophers." The next GOP debate will be December 15 in Nevada. Democrats meet Saturday night in Des Moines, IA, broadcast on CBS.

Rhineland's Streetscape project gets another look tomorrow night when the downtown infrastructure improvement committee meets at city hall. Previous information about the multi-million dollar project will be reviewed with harder estimated costs and funding options being announced and discussed. Next spring when the city begins major utility and service upgrades that will close portions of Brown and Davenport streets, the business district has been working what the area will look like when things go back together.

A significant storm system blowing in tonight could dump up to two inches of rain on parts of north central Wisconsin. Winds over 40-mph are likely with

					1-2 inches of snow possible into Friday. Parts of Vilas County could see up to five inches.
Wis., salutes it's veterans today	News	11/11/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>As Wisconsin salutes its veterans today, more of them are rediscovering the joys of hunting. The Heroes' Hunt for Wounded Warriors is growing rapidly. Director Brian Bell says it began after Waupun donated 60 acres from a landfill it used to run. After some media coverage, Bell says there are 15-hundred acres in the program. And it's allowing 60 wounded veterans to hunt for deer, turkeys, and pheasants this season. Now, the program is gearing up for Wisconsin's nine-day gun hunt which begins November 21st.</p> <p>We could hear more soon about a reported agreement keeping the U-S beer operations of Miller</p>

and Coors under American ownership. The involved parties are not commenting on a Wall Street Journal report that Molson-Coors of Denver has agreed to become the sole owner of the Miller-Coors U-S brewing company. The purchase price is said to be 12-billion dollars. It was announced last month that Miller's owner, S-A-B of London, would be acquired by the Belgian firm of In-Bev, maker of Budweiser and other Anheuser-Busch products. Miller-Coors -- which is based in Chicago has 14-hundred employees in Milwaukee at a Miller brewery and corporate offices.

Enbridge Energy has extra security at a petroleum pipeline maintenance site in northwest Wisconsin where criminal damage was reported. Washburn

					<p>County Sheriff Terry Dryden says a private contractor was doing preventive maintenance on a line near Hayward -- and investigators were called November second after somebody dug numerous holes at the site, put a generator in one of them, and moved other equipment.</p>
<p>Storms moved through the area last night</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>11/12/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Storms moving through last night did more than dump over an inch of rain. Lightning damaged a home in Plover, sparking a fire that caused significant damage to the attic. And a power pole was struck in Schofield. No injuries were reported. The rain changes to snow tonight.</p> <p>A "five strikes" drunk driving bill gets public hearing at the Capitol today. The proposal, before the Assembly Judiciary</p>

				<p>Committee, would revoke the driver's license of a repeat offender after a 5th OWI, or 3rd OWI for convictions on multiple serious offenses.</p> <p>Governor Scott Walker signed a new ambulance staffing bill that helps response times for Emergency Medical Services in rural areas.</p> <p>Authored by Crivitz Republican Representative Jeff Mursau, the bill will allow first responders to act as one member of a legal ambulance crew.</p> <p>Currently, two EMT's, registered nurse or physician's assistant or a combination are required when transporting a patient. Waiting for a full crew has delayed medical response time. Mursau said the first responders are highly qualified to handle a life-threatening incident.</p>
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					<p>Wisconsin's largest food distribution and grocery store chain will soon have a new owner. The Kroger Company of Cincinnati reached an agreement to buy Milwaukee-based Roundy's for \$800 million. Kroger will buy all outstanding shares of Roundy's, while Roundy's locations will keep operating as subsidiaries of Kroger. The two companies said there are no plans to close their combined 2,700 supermarkets with 422,000 employees. Roundy's owns 151 stores and 101 pharmacies under the Pick-N-Save, Copps, and Metro Market banners throughout Wisconsin.</p>
<p>Tom Tiffany speaks out about the Republican Party</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>11/12/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Hazelhurst Republican Senator Tom Tiffany doesn't like his party's plan to limit school referendums in the state. The proposals would</p>

				<p>allow school votes only on higher turnout elections and building and tax referendums that are defeated could not be brought back to voters for two years. Tiffany says while some limits might be appropriate, he doesn't favor this bill. He also says the current school funding formula -- which hurts districts with declining enrollments like many in the north -- is not likely to change. For years, schools in Northwoods tourist areas have said the state aid formula punishes districts with high property values and limited enrollments. Tiffany says his colleagues have done some things to help -- like granting extra aid for small schools that serve the largest land areas with high busing costs. A rare wave of November thunderstorms caused</p>
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					<p>damage in parts of southern and central Wisconsin. Twelve-hundred electric customers of the state's five largest utilities were without power early this morning. Trees and power lines fell along with one-inch hail. Fifty-mile-an-hour winds were recorded near Janesville and Belmont. Lightning started a fire that damaged the upper part of a house in Plover. About one-thousand central Wisconsin electric customers were in the dark yesterday afternoon, most in the Merrill area. The far north and UP could see up to eight inches of new snow by tomorrow afternoon. The snow is welcome news to deer hunters, preparing for the opening of the gun season next weekend.</p>
Halloween in Rhinelander takes an ugly turn	News	11/13/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	Rhinelander's Halloween took an ugly turn with the police department

announcing yesterday two needles were found in a Three Musketeers candy bar. The complaint came from a family trick or treating in the Pioneer Park area of the city. Authorities remind people to be sure and check any and all candy given to children.

Thirteen Assembly Republicans from across the state toured the North yesterday for a look at the forestry and logging industry. Organized by Irma Representative Mary Czaja and Rob Swearingen of Rhinelander, the group visited an active logging site, lumber plant and packaging company. The lawmakers said their colleagues need to understand forests are not only for recreation but also a vital part of the economy, worth over \$3.1 billion a year. According to the

				<p>DNR, forestry is the number one employer in seven northern counties and the state's second largest manufacturing employer. One of the Democratic candidates for president is sending her husband into Wisconsin to help raise some campaign money. Former President Bill Clinton is scheduled to make a stop in downtown Madison next week for a noon-hour fundraiser. Mr. Clinton was last in the state in September, when she made a campaign stop in Milwaukee.</p> <p>VFW Post 388 in Wausau has been serving since 1920 and while they'll continue, their restaurant and hall will not. The Hangar Lounge, Restaurant and Banquet Hall, owned by the post is closing and the building will be sold. Details are being released at a news</p>
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					conference later this morning.
Endangered status of gray wolfs could be taken away	News	11/13/15	1230p,530p	1:30	The endangered status of Wisconsin grey wolves could be removed again under a new bill in Congress. G-O-P Senator Ron Johnson and House Republican Reid Ribble joined two Wyoming lawmakers to try and let two federal agencies decide when wolves should be endangered. Wisconsin is no longer managing its own wolf population, after a federal judge approved the U-S Humane Society's request to bring back the endangered status a year ago. Farmers could no longer shoot wolves that hurt-and-kill their livestock. The ruling also ended Wisconsin's three-year-old wolf hunting season -- a major point of criticism in the Humane Society's lawsuit.

				<p>Starting in January, Wisconsin's largest public university will no longer have a printed newspaper each day. The 123-year-old Daily Cardinal will cut back from four editions a week to two next semester. The paper will focus more of its attention on its Internet and mobile sites. The Wisconsin State Journal lists several reasons for the decline in free student papers -- high printing costs, fewer local businesses that advertise, and the rise of social media where companies reach young people.</p> <p>The State Capitol Christmas Tree will start its journey to Madison on Wednesday. The Brad and Elizabeth Kowieski family of Rhinelander is providing the 40-foot balsam fir. It will be chopped down Tuesday. Dennis and Troy Schoeneck of Pelican Lake will start</p>
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					delivering it on Wednesday morning. It will stay in a tarp outside the Capitol until crews move it into the rotunda the Monday after Thanksgiving.
State assembly votes	News	11/16/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	The state Assembly votes today on bills overhauling the Government Accountability Board and campaign finance laws, with passage in both chambers expected to send both bills to Governor Scott Walker for his signature. One would eliminate the current GAB, which oversees elections in the state, replacing it with two six-member partisan commissions to oversee ethics and elections issues separately. The campaign finance changes include doubling contribution limits to candidates, clarifying limits on corporate contributions to political parties and committees

and codifying in state law the ability for candidates and third-party issue advocacy groups to coordinate their efforts.

Two people were hurt after their plane crashed in Shawano County yesterday morning. Just after nine dispatch received a report of a small aircraft that had crashed into a farm field three miles south of the City of Shawano.

Federal officials and environmentalists are questioning the viability of an oil pipeline which is more than 60 years old. They say it could be a threat to the Great Lakes, the source of drinking water for tens of millions of people. Known only as "Line-Five," the oil pipeline carries product from Superior to Sarnia, Ontario, cutting through the Mackinac Straits. Experts

					<p>say a spill there could be a catastrophe, calling it the worst possible place for a spill in the Great Lakes. Enbridge is the Canadian company which operates the line. A spokesman says it is inspected every year and looks as good as it did when it was installed in 1953.</p>
Vehicle fire responded to.	News	11/16/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>Tomahawk firefighters and Lincoln County Sheriff's deputies responded to a vehicle fire yesterday afternoon. Just before 1:00 reports of the fire in a field on County Road D in the town of Harrison came in. When authorities arrived the vehicle was fully ablaze. Reports indicate a group was offroading with the vehicle which probably caused the fire. House Speaker Paul Ryan says he has "no idea" how long he'll stay in that post.</p>

The Janesville Republican said he'll only commit to the remaining 14 months in the current session. The 45-year-old Ryan reluctantly accepted the speaker's post only after being assured of cooperation by all three segments of the G-O-P House contingent. He says he was planning to serve out a tenure as the House Ways-and-Means Committee chair, and then find "something else to do with his life."

The Wisconsin Supreme Court will hear arguments tomorrow (Tuesday) in a case involving the powers of the elected state public school superintendent. The justices will consider whether the governor can have a say over the Department of Public Instruction's administrative rules. Republican Scott Walker decided in 2011 to

					<p>give him and the Legislature the power to overturn rules from state agencies which carry out new state laws. The D-P-I was among those agencies, but two lower court decisions rejected the veto power for education rules. Those rulings say the voters have the eventual control over D-P-I rules, through the election of the state superintendent every four years.</p>
<p>Gov. Walker says the state wont accept any Syrian refugees</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>11/17/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Gov. Scott Walker says Wisconsin will not accept any new Syrian refugees in the wake of the terrorist attacks in Paris because they pose a threat. Walker issued a statement yesterday calling on President Barack Obama ↗ to not allow any Syrian refugees into the United States pending a full review of security and acceptance procedures.</p>

Meanwhile, President Obama defended his strategy of building an international coalition to launch air strikes while training and equipping more moderate forces on the ground. He's dismissed calls for a large number of ground forces in Syria and Iraq.

Lawmakers for both parties in Wisconsin agree something has to be done about the deteriorating road system. The trouble is they can't agree how. Just this month a move to borrow \$350 million dollars was approved, bringing the total just shy of a billion dollars. Governor Scott Walker has avoided a gas tax or other increases. Senator Tom Tiffany says we have to find a funding solution, but it isn't borrowing more money. The Hazelhurst Republican

					<p>voted against the move when it came up and says he'd consider a tax increase, raising registration fees or even toll roads. Democrats say, if they'd been in power, they would have managed the road budget more responsibly over the past several years and this wouldn't be a problem.</p> <p>Rhinelanders Chamber of Commerce has new leadership. Bill Clow begins his new duties December first. He comes up North from Illinois from a career in marketing and community outreach.</p>
Strike at the Kohler Co.	News	11/17/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>It's the second business day of a strike at the Kohler Company. About 21-hundred members of the United Auto Workers union walked out Sunday after rejecting what the sink, shower and toilet fixtures</p>

giant called its final contract offer. Local union president Tim Tayloe says his group has lots of support from local businesses and unions nationally. He also says he's had no contact with the company as of yesterday afternoon. There was no immediate word of how many -- if any -- employees took Kohler up on its invitation work yesterday at their previous pay.

The nine-day deer gun hunting season opens this weekend and the DNR and Recreation officers remind people they'll be out there, too. The most common violations include permanent tree stands on county land, using climbing spikes and traveling with ATVs or UTVs in restricted areas. They also remind hunters to ask permission if tracking a wounded animal

					<p>while crossing private property and to register their deer using the new DNR hotline. Wardens noted they expect to work with a lot of hunters as everyone gets used to the new system.</p> <p>The next hearing of the state assembly's Task Force on Alzheimer's and Dementia will be in Rhinelander.</p> <p>Representative Rob Swearingen announced the hearing set for tomorrow at 12:30 at Nicolet College. The hearing will focus on the afflictions in rural Wisconsin and the unique challenges these diseases can pose to those communities. Several more hearings are pending across the state.</p>
Gov. Walker opposed to letting Syrian refugees in the state	News	11/18/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	So far Wisconsin's Governor Scott Walker and 25 other GOP governors are opposed to admitting any

Syrian refugees until the federal government can adequately screen them to prevent terrorists from entering the U.S. Can governors legally block Syrian refugees from entering their states? Don Downs, an emeritus political science professor at UW, says it's less clear. He says "What's problematic from a legal perspective is, do state's have the constitutional power to restrict travel to their states, once the federal government has provided for entry into the country? The answer is probably no," Downs said. "the law seems to on the side that this would be a problematic thing to do." In the end he says, it all comes down to who's going to pay for it.

The state Assembly's natural resources committee

				<p>approved a bill prohibiting people from harassing hunters in the woods. The move clears the way for a full vote on the Assembly floor. However, the chamber has already wrapped up fall floor sessions, and does not reconvene until January. Wisconsin law already prohibits someone from interfering with hunting, fishing or trapping activities. The Wisconsin Region of the American Red Cross recognized Laurel Cooper of Merrill as their volunteer of the month of November. In making the announcement, she was not only supporting local initiatives, she was also deployed for her 10th national assignment. In her nomination she was recognized for her work on the Disaster Action Team and acting as the</p>
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					Emergency Response Vehicle Coordinator, training instructor and leadership.
Socal man ordered to prison time	News	11/18/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>A Southern California man will spend almost 13-and-a-half years in prison for molesting a seventh grader in Wausau after he met her online. Thirty-nine year old Praveen Kharb of San Diego must also spend 15 years under extended supervision in a sentence handed down yesterday. Kharb pleaded no contest in August to one Marathon County charge of child sexual assault, and seven counts of possessing child pornography. Eight other charges were dropped in a plea deal.</p> <p>Wisconsin will have a larger increase in Thanksgiving traffic than the nation as a whole. The Triple-"A" says nearly a million Badger State residents will travel 50-</p>

miles-or-more for their turkey and pumpkin pie next week, one-point-four percent more than last year and higher than the national increase of six-tenths of one-percent. To help, gas prices could be as low as two-dollars a gallon by the holiday.

Wisconsin has the nation's largest increases in fixed electric charges since the start of last year. That's according to a study by Renew Wisconsin. It says customers of 18 utilities in other states paid between a penny and four-dollars and 30-cents more each month to cover their share of equipment costs, not including the power they use. State regulators allowed three large Wisconsin utilities to raise their fixed charges a year ago by almost seven-and-nine-dollars per month.

					<p>Critics say the higher charges hurt the elderly and penalize customers who conserve energy. Utilities say they need all customers to pay their share of things like power poles and crews who fix storm damage.</p>
<p>Tom Tiffany to be challenged in senate race</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>11/19/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>A former school superintendent and administrator in Oconto Falls will challenge Republican Tom Tiffany for his state senate seat. 67-year old Dave Polashek announced his candidacy as a democrat yesterday with stops in Rhinelander, Antigo and Oconto Falls. He told supporters we need to create good jobs, protect the resources, support students, reverse the Madison assault on local control and fight for the values of the northwoods. The 12th senate district covers most</p>

				<p>of NE Wisconsin. The election is in November. The USDA awarded more than \$42 million to rural Wisconsin communities to improve infrastructure, provide essential services and improved access to health care. Among the recipients, the city of Eagle River which will get a \$47,000 grant for the police department to upgrade a vehicle and equipment necessary to perform their duties. Since 2010, USDA Rural Development has invested more than \$3.5 billion on essential public facilities, small and emerging businesses, water and sewer systems and housing opportunities. Advocates for nuclear energy called on lawmakers to lift a long-standing moratorium on building new power plants in the state. Supporters say</p>
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					<p>nuclear power has changed a great deal since 1983, when the ban was set, with cleaner technology allowing spent fuel to often be reused in other facilities and reducing concerns about long-term storage. Opponents maintain since uranium still has to be mined and the average cost per kilowatt hour is about 10 cents higher than wind or coal and argued the state should pursue cleaner and renewable technologies like wind and solar..</p>
<p>Tomah man pleads not guilty in Wausau</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>11/19/15</p>	<p>1230,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>A Tomah man shot by a Wausau police officer pleaded not-guilty to drug charges. Thirty-four year old Adam Radek was arraigned yesterday, right after he was ordered to stand trial on two Marathon County charges -- possessing heroin and illegally possessing a firearm</p>

				<p>as a felon. Radek was wounded as Wausau Police investigated a burglary on August 22nd. The state Justice Department later cleared officer Shawn Fritsch, who shot Radek. The Menominee Indian tribe says the current federal Farm Bill allows it to grow industrial hemp, and it's asking a federal judge to uphold that measure. The tribe filed suit yesterday, about a month after federal drug agents seized 30-thousand high-grade marijuana plants in a field near Suring on the tribe's reservation. Tribal leaders say industrial hemp does not have enough T-H-C, the active ingredient in marijuana, to be considered as an illicit drug. In its lawsuit, the Menominee says the 2014 package of federal farm programs allows hemp for</p>
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					<p>products like foods, paper, textiles, body-care products, and building materials.</p> <p>The Bay Area Humane Society is preparing to recover more than 60 cats from a hoarding situation in Forest County. The organization says it attempted to recover 40 of the cats last week, but the homeowner backed out of an agreement and employees were only able to recover seven cats and kittens. Those animals were malnourished and will need to recover. the organization will obtain a search warrant so it can seize all of the cats in the home based on "unsafe and unsanitary living conditions".</p>
Ben Carson leads republican candidates in Wisconsin	News	11/20/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	Ben Carson leads all other Republican presidential primary candidates in

Wisconsin, according to the latest survey results from the Marquette University Law School Poll. It's a tight race for the G-O-P nomination, with Ben Carson polling at 22 percent. Donald Trump and Marco Rubio are close behind, each at 19 percent. Both are within the four-point-two percent margin of error for this poll.

In Wisconsin's 2016 race for U-S Senate, former Democratic Senator Russ Feingold continues to lead incumbent Republican Ron Johnson.

A legislative committee heard hours of testimony yesterday on a bill aimed at addressing which bathrooms and locker rooms transgender students can use in public schools. The legislation would create a statewide policy requiring public school districts to restrict the use of those

facilities to students of a single sex, effectively requiring students with a gender identity different from the biological sex from entering them.

Deer hunters in southern Wisconsin might see significant snow on the ground for opening day. While, initial forecasts called for scattered snow showers beginning tonight and moving into Saturday, updated forecasts are showing more significant snow. New modeling from the National Weather Service, shows a snowstorm could move across Illinois and into southern Wisconsin today. The storm could dump up to seven inches of snow south of a line running roughly from De Soto to Port Washington between this afternoon and tomorrow. A winter storm watch has

					been posted for that region from Friday night through Saturday.
Marathon Co. officials report man run over in woods by heavy equipment	News	11/23/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>Citing significant data gaps and delays, the registration reporting summary from the DNR for the opening weekend of the nine-day gun deer hunt isn't complete but we do know nearly 109,000 animals were registered. License sales were also up over last year with the department noting more young people and women were taking to the woods. The DNR said the updated reporting system worked well and blamed the volumes of information for delays.</p> <p>The Marathon County Sheriff's office reported a person was run over in the woods by some heavy equipment yesterday. Just before 3:00 emergency crews were dispatched</p>

				<p>near the intersection of highways S and F near Hamburg. The victim was airlifted to an area hospital with chest injuries. There's no word on the injuries or the identity of the victim. The increase in traffic coupled with much colder conditions and slippery roads contributed to a number of accidents across the North. Vilas County authorities responded to several minor crashes with little or no injuries over the weekend. Mostly one vehicle was involved. The same for Oneida County where multiple reports of accidents came in. Two separate rollovers occurred within 15-minutes of each other Friday. There was one fatality however, early Saturday morning when a truck left the road and struck a power pole. The driver, 20-year old Randall</p>
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					<p>Lego of Rhineland was injured and cited for OWI. Further charges are pending because his passenger, 23-year old Jacob Juedes, also of Rhineland, died in the crash. The accident happened in the town of Pine Lake on River Road.</p>
<p>Vesper man dies from traffic accident</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>11/2/315</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Officials at Ministry Saint Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield report a 31-year-old Vesper man died from injuries suffered in a traffic accident. The unnamed man was one of two people in a horse-drawn wagon that was hit by a truck Friday. The man and a 10-year-old boy were thrown from the wagon by the impact. The boy, also from Vesper, is in critical condition as of yesterday. Investigators say alcohol was a factor in addition to the wagon not having any</p>

lights. The 31-year-old driver of the pickup wasn't named.

Madison police report 110 fans were ejected from snowy Camp Randall Stadium Saturday as the Badgers were losing to Northwestern. Fans were throwing snowballs and ice at each other and onto the field. That resulted in 50 of the people being shown the gates. Two dozen fans were given tickets and there were another two dozen calls for first aid from fans getting hit. The spirit squad had to move from its spot behind the end zone and, when a controversial call cost the Badgers a game-winning touchdown in the final minute, the referees had to run for cover as the snowballs and ice started to fly again. Nearly 90% of Wisconsinites travelling this Thanksgiving

					<p>week will be driving, helped by gas prices that are already falling to near \$2.00 a gallon in parts of the state. Nearly a million state residents are expected to travel an average of 50 miles during the holiday period running from Wednesday through Sunday.</p>
<p>One person dead in Marathon Co. crash</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>11/24/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>One man is dead after a traffic crash last night in northern Marathon County. First responders were called to the intersection of County Highway G and Pit Road in the Town of Hewitt around 8:20 for reports of a car that struck a bridge. The 31-year old driver, the only one in the car, died as a result of the injuries from the crash. Investigators say the car was traveling east on County Highway G, when it crossed to the left side of the road and struck the bridge and guardrail.</p>

				<p>The victim's name hasn't been released.</p> <p>Randall Lego appeared in Oneida County Court yesterday. The 20-year old Rhinelander man hasn't been formally charged following an accident early Saturday that claimed the life of 23-year old Jacob Juedes, also of Rhinelander. Lego reportedly had been drinking before crashing his truck into a power pole on River Road in the Town of Pine Lake. He had a \$10,000 signature bond set and is back in court December 14th.</p> <p>The state housing market continued to see strong numbers in October, according to new figures released by the Wisconsin Realtors Association. The WRA shows home sales were up 2.4 percent last month, compared to last year. Home prices were</p>
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					<p>also up 4.7 percent, to a statewide median of \$155,000. Home sales typically start to drop off in the fall months, but the WRA board noted good weather in October helped to carry on strong momentum from the summer months. It's the strongest January-October period in a decade.</p>
<p>Wisconsin gun deer season off to a good start</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>11/24/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>A federal appeals court in Chicago is the latest to rule against a Wisconsin law requiring abortion doctors to have hospital admitting privileges within 30 miles. A three-judge panel voted two-to-one yesterday in affirming the 2013 Republican law be struck down. Judge Richard Posner says it endangers women's health and medical benefits claimed by the G-O-P are "non-existent." The state Justice Department says it will ask</p>

the U-S Supreme Court to rule on the matter. The nation's highest court has already agreed to consider a similar law in Texas that could shut down three-fourths of that state's abortion clinics.

Wisconsin's gun deer hunting season is off to a much better start than a year ago. The D-N-R says 119-thousand-495 deer were taken in the opening weekend of the nine-day hunt. That's 15-and-a-half percent more than 2014. The statewide buck harvest was up almost 13-percent, while the antlerless total rose by close to 20-percent. More than half the season's total harvest normally takes place on the opening weekend.

Black Friday bargains can already be had, as Wisconsin retailers spread out their deals. Still,

					shopping groups say the day after Thanksgiving remains the busiest of the year. The International Council of Shopping Centers expects 41-percent of Americans to hit the stores on Friday. "Small Business Saturday" and "Cyber Monday" have also become more popular. Like Black Friday, the online bargains have spread throughout November. Web sites for the Wisconsin-based Kohl's and Boston Stores started offering their Black Friday door-busters yesterday online.
Thanksgiving driving	News	11/25/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	Driving home for Thanksgiving may not be easy. The National Weather Service says a cold front is expected to reach Wisconsin just in time for sleet-and-snow on Thursday morning in the central part of the state. One-to-three inches of snow are possible

				<p>in the north. Southern Wisconsin might get so much rain on the holiday, that minor street flooding could occur on Thanksgiving night. Rain is predicted in Green Bay for Thursday night's Packer-Bear game and ticket brokers say the weather is driving down their prices. A state lawmaker wants to amend the Wisconsin constitution to put term limits in place. The proposal would not apply to any current members of the legislature, or the Governor. State Representative Bob Gannon (R-Slinger) said he quickly found in his first term there is not a sense of urgency on most issues, because politicians believe they're coming back next year. He believes incumbency is too powerful and at election time it's very difficult to</p>
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					<p>knock out an incumbent. Gannon's amendment would limit the governor and lieutenant governor to eight years, and state legislators to 12 years. It would need to pass two consecutive legislative sessions and a statewide voter referendum.</p> <p>The Oneida county ATV trail system closes for the season next week. Effective Wednesday at 5pm, the entire Lynne/Little Rice systems and west loop of the Enterprise trail south of Shingle Mill Road will close. The trails are scheduled to reopen May 22nd next year.</p>
Deer hunter killed in Wisconsin	News	11/25/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>A second deer hunter has been killed during Wisconsin's gun season, and authorities are asking for people's help to figure out why. Fifty-six year old Gregory Welk was hit by a stray bullet late Monday afternoon while hunting on</p>

				<p>his property near Wild Rose in the Waushara County town of Morris. Officials say the area is heavily wooded and visibilities are limited. Investigators want to know more about people who might have been in a dark pick-up truck left nearby on D-N-R land. Witnesses can call the Waushara County Crime-Stoppers program, or the D-N-R. Meanwhile, authorities identified the state's other shooting victim. Thirty-nine year old Brian Jackson of Fairbanks, Alaska died last weekend while handing a loaded rifle to a woman in a tree stand. The shooting deaths are the first for the gun deer season since 2012.</p> <p>The employees who make Jennie-O turkeys in Wisconsin and Minnesota are especially grateful this Thanksgiving. Their company recovered from</p>
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					<p>numerous issues involving the avian flu -- and they're getting record bonuses for working through the challenges. Jennie-O Turkey Store employees are getting average bonuses of 18-hundred-50 dollars this week, based on the company's performance over the past year. New employees get around 600-dollars.</p> <p>Quarterback Aaron Rodgers is looking forward to the anticipated returns of two of his Packers predecessors on Thanksgiving night. Brett Favre's name and retired number will be unveiled inside the stadium at halftime of Green Bay's game against the Chicago Bears. Hall of Fame quarterback Bart Starr is also expected to attend.</p>
Person found in Red Granite shooting	News	11/26/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	If you drive drunk, the police can arrest you, even

if their only evidence is a passenger tossing a cigarette butt out your car window without you knowing it. The State Supreme Court ruled yesterday against motorist Daniel Iverson. He was stopped in La Crosse after a trooper suspected he was drunk. But the officer later admitted he had no evidence to stop the vehicle until a passenger illegally littered by tossing the cigarette butt. Last year, a state appeals court ruled in Iverson's favor, after he said the arrest violated his Fourth Amendment right against unreasonable searches. The Supreme Court reversed that decision.

A person involved in the fatal shooting of a hunter near Redgranite has been found. Gregory Welk of Mount Morris was shot just

					<p>before sunset Monday while he hunted on his land. The 56-year-old was able to call 911 and gave investigators some information before he died at the hospital. The shooting has been considered an accident and no additional information is available. Green Bay Packers kicker Mason Crosby made all five of his field-goal attempts in their win over the Minnesota Vikings Sunday and for his efforts, was named the NFC's Special Teams Player of the Week, for a franchise record sixth time. Crosby is the first player in NFL history to make at least five field goals in a game without a miss, also a franchise single game record. The Packers and Bears tangle at Lambeau tonight.</p>
Black Friday traffic is heavy	News	11/27/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	Traffic was actually heavy early this morning as Black

Friday shoppers began their annual ritual of bargain hunting. Some stores began the frenzy already last night and despite the weather, business was brisk. And speaking of money, the Powerball jackpot is back at 100-million dollars for the next drawing on Saturday.

Wausau's City Council votes next month whether or not to outfit police with body cameras. Officers tested the units this summer. The five year contract would run \$300,000.

Hunters are reminded the Rhinelander Lions Club is again collecting deer hides. The funds provide free camping for youngsters afflicted with blindness, deafness, diabetes and other infirmities to attend the Wisconsin Lions Camp in Rosholt. Donated hides and tails can be placed in

the barrels at the corner of Lincoln Street and the Hwy 17 bypass near Hodag Gun and Loan.

38-year-old Drayon Wren wrote a business plan in prison but may never get to carry it out, because he's going back behind bars for another 18 years. Wren was sentenced for sex trafficking to raise money for his venture. Wren told the judge he wrote a play and novel during his first prison term, for violating probation on a conviction for causing a reckless injury. He also says he took business management courses in prison and wrote a business plan for an Internet outlet to feature Milwaukee entertainers. Wren says his "thought process went wrong" when he arranged for his girlfriend and a trio of 17-year-olds to serve as prostitutes to raise money to

					launch his businesses.
Rhinelanders Lions Club collecting deer hides	News	11/27/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>Traffic was actually heavy early this morning as Black Friday shoppers began their annual ritual of bargain hunting. Some stores began the frenzy already last night and despite the weather, business was brisk. And speaking of money, the Powerball jackpot is back at 100-million dollars for the next drawing on Saturday.</p> <p>Wausau's City Council votes next month whether or not to outfit police with body cameras. Officers tested the units this summer. The five year contract would run \$300,000.</p> <p>Hunters are reminded the Rhinelanders Lions Club is again collecting deer hides. The funds provide free camping for youngsters afflicted with blindness, deafness, diabetes and other infirmities to attend</p>

the Wisconsin Lions Camp in Rosholt. Donated hides and tails can be placed in the barrels at the corner of Lincoln Street and the Hwy 17 bypass near Hodag Gun and Loan.

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					for his girlfriend and a trio of 17-year-olds to serve as prostitutes to raise money to launch his businesses.
Deadliest gun deer season In the state in 5 years	News	11/30/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	This has been Wisconsin's deadliest gun-deer season in the past five years, with two shooting fatalities recorded. Four other hunters also have been wounded. Those numbers may increase as Marathon County authorities are investigating a shooting last night near Spencer. An unidentified 50-year old man was killed in what's being called a hunting-related accident. The DNR stated hunters violated some of the fundamental rules of gun safety in all the incidents. The nine day season ended yesterday. Since April, nearly 15,000 Wisconsinites lost access to food stamps. That's when new rules took effect requiring able-bodied

				<p>adults without children at home to work or look for work to stay in the program. Data from the Department of Human Services shows about 25% of the 60,000 recipients eligible to work were dropped between July and September. Another 4500 did find employment.</p> <p>Michigan State officials are offering a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person responsible for shooting a gray wolf in the UPs Houghton County. The DNR said the animal was killed last week on a snowmobile trail near Hwy 26 just south of Twin Lakes. The shooter reportedly fired from a vehicle. The gray wolf is on the federal endangered species list and cannot be legally killed except in defense of human life.</p>
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				<p>A wintery mix of weather is headed to northern and central Wisconsin. Advisories have already been issued until 6am Wednesday for Price County with Adams, Juneau, Clark and Taylor counties on alert through noon.</p>
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More deer shot this year than last year

News

11/30/15

1230p,530p

1:30

Wisconsin hunters shot more deer in the first eight days of this year's gun season, than in all nine days a year ago. The state D-N-R says more than 192-thousand deer were registered statewide through Saturday. That's about 775 more animals than in all of last season, which was the lowest total in 30 years. The gun season ended yesterday. The season had its first fatal shootings since 2012. Two were confirmed, and a possible third death is being investigated in Marathon County.

The first big weekend of the holiday shopping season appears to have mixed results. A mild weekend in Wisconsin appeared to attract more bargain-hunters. Many Wisconsin merchants had one of the busiest Small Business Saturdays on record.

Wisconsinites are being urged not to throw away their broken or obsolete Christmas lights. A number of Habitat-for-Humanity chapters collect them. They sell the copper-and-plastic in those lights to raise money to build homes for low-income families. Chuck Streck of Habitat-for-Humanity in Wausau says it also helps the environment by re-using more trash instead of burying it in landfills. Wausau's program is in its fourth year.

Manitowish Waters' Chamber of Commerce picked up a \$5000 donation from the Lion's Club in support of their Light Up Manitowish Waters campaign. The club appreciates the work of the Chamber and will be on hand at the official tree lighting on Friday.

The Powerball jackpot is at

					110-million dollars for Wednesday night. Nobody won the top prize during the weekend.
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Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Station: Wmqa
Quarter: 4th (dec.)
Year: 2015

ISSUE DESCRIPTION	PROGRAM SEGMENT	DATE	TIME	DURATION	DESCRIPTION OF SEGMENT
Another deer gun death in the state	News	12/1/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	The death of 50-year-old hunter Mark Bychinski of Spencer in Marathon County has been confirmed as the state's third firearm-related death during the nine day gun deer hunt. Jon King, Hunter Education Coordinator with the DNR, said Bychinski was found at the base of a tree with a gunshot wound to the chest. His rifle was hanging from the tree stand by a cord, and it appears the weapon discharged, striking him. The Sheriff's Department said investigators were called Sunday night at about 9:15 to a wooded area near Spencer in the town of Brighton. The two other hunting season deaths both

occurred during the opening weekend.

Kid's technology maker VTech says the personal information of about 5 million of its customers and their children may have been stolen by hackers. The Hong Kong-based company disclosed the breach of a customer database late last week, but didn't say how many people could be affected until yesterday. The affected database includes the names, birthdates and genders of child users. It also includes adult user information including names, email addresses, passwords, secret questions and answers for password retrieval, IP addresses, mailing addresses and download histories. The database doesn't contain any credit card numbers.

					<p>The company contacted all of the affected users by email and has temporarily suspended some of its websites as a precaution.</p> <p>December-type storms are rolling into Wisconsin almost right on cue. Sleet, snow and rain arrived in southwest Wisconsin overnight. Winter weather advisories continue into tomorrow in the northwest.</p>
Dec. comes in with some bad weather	News	12/1/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>December came in on the rough side and law enforcement from Marathon County north to the Michigan border ask drivers to slow down, turn on the headlights and allow extra time to travel. Dozens of accidents were reported by mid-morning already as roads became more snow and ice covered. Several accidents were severe enough to close highways in parts central and</p>

northwestern Wisconsin. The State Patrol also cautions motorists to respect the plows and salt trucks on the road. Winter weather advisories stretch into tomorrow and travelers are urged to check local forecasts for the latest information.

For more than a decade, Downtown Rhinelander, Incorporated had a structured presence in the business district. That changes soon as the organization will now be operated by its board of directors and volunteers. In its final official publication this month, DRI board president Dan Kuzlik said the organization would no longer have paid staff to organize and execute downtown events and activities and thanked outgoing executive director Maggie Steffen for her

					<p>years of running the group. Officials in Mauston say they're taken aback by a state order to remove welcome signs next to highways along the city limits. The D-O-T says that four "Welcome to Mauston" signs are not allowed on the state's rights-of-way, because the word "welcome" is considered advertising. City administrator Nathan Thiel says he can't understand it, because there are "Welcome to Wisconsin" signs all along the state's borders. There's now a bill in the works to allow signs that say "welcome to" a community along state highway easements.</p>
Traffic death in Marathon Co.	News	12/2/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>Yesterday's slippery driving conditions contributed to a traffic fatality in Marathon County last night. The Sheriff's dept reports a 29-year old man died after</p>

losing control of his car near the interchange of highways 29 and 97 and hitting a semi. The crash happened around 8:30. The victim died at St. Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield. The State Patrol and sheriff's office are still investigating the cause. Roads are snow covered and slippery again this morning.

At least one Wisconsin environmental group has come out against a proposed package of bills to limit government regulations in favor of granting more rights to landowners. Amber Meyer Smith of Clean Wisconsin says the bills could hurt water quality, with less protections of lake beds and special waters and more filling of wetlands. Republican lawmakers want to restore

property rights taken away over decades and end court battles caused by an uncertain regulatory climate. Among other things, the bills would give more flexibility to landowners to control lake beds, beaches, piers, and wetlands. It would also classify fewer waters for special protections, and reduce rules on ditches and other man-made water carriers.

Studies the last several years across the North have shown in order to attract and grow business, access to high speed, wireless communication is key. A \$41,000 state broadband expansion grant will help Hurley in that regard with three towers being built to provide those services to nearly 30 businesses and some 2,000 people. Gov Scott Walker announced

					the award yesterday.
Fox Valley man ordered to stand trial	News	12/2/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>A Fox Valley man has been ordered to stand trial for the burglary of a house near Rhinelander where a girl had allegedly killed her mother and step-father. Thirty-eight year old Mark Spietz of Kaukauna waived a preliminary hearing yesterday. He's scheduled to enter pleas December 28th in Oneida County to three burglary charges and counts of theft and identity theft. Spietz is accused of stealing numerous items from the house where 17-year-old Ashlee Martinson allegedly killed Jennifer and Thomas Ayres in March. Martinson's case will be reviewed at a status conference next week. She has pleaded insanity. A 30-year-old Antigo man convicted of robbing the U.S. Bank in Weston in January. He'll spend 15</p>

years in prison, followed by 10 years extended supervision. Kevin Calhoun was arrested four days after the robbery at a Rothschild motel. He's charged with robbery and four drug charges. During a plea deal with prosecuted Tuesday, Calhoun pleaded guilty to robbery and possession of meth.

Gas prices continue to drop as the holiday travel season kicks into high gear. Prices across central wisconsin hovered around \$2 a gallon this morning while most of the north was in the \$2.05 range. The national average right now is \$2.03. Industry analysts say a decrease in the cost of crude oil, coupled with a drop in demand and an end to seasonal maintenance on refineries all contribute to the lower prices. Experts predict

					<p>prices below \$2 a gallon by Christmas.</p> <p>Speaking of money, tonight's Powerball jackpot is \$110 million.</p>
<p>Oneida Co. officials warn people of IRS scam</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/3/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>The Oneida County Sheriff's Department has a message for anyone getting a call from the IRS. Hang up. An elaborate scam is being reported as callers say they're from the Internal Revenue Service and demand immediate payment of back taxes. They may even have the last four digits of your Social Security number. You may get an email along with the call and caller ID suggests it's coming from the IRS. Law enforcement reminds people to never give personal information over the phone and to immediately report any of these contacts.</p> <p>The healthcare industry in</p>

				<p>Wausau is the city's largest employer and it's about to get bigger. A \$30-million expansion of Aspirus Wausau Hospital was announced yesterday. Nearly 400 people have been hired over the last six months and another 125 are expected. The provided cited an increase in patients, specifically helicopter transports as a main reason for the expansion. Initial plans include new inpatient rooms, expansion of the regional cancer center, state of the art diagnostics and more. Work could begin later this winter with completion expected in about two years. Aspirus employs over 2000 people. Tuesday we told you about the city of Hurley getting a \$41,000 state grant to increase wireless communication for</p>
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					businesses and residents. They were one of 11 rural areas sharing over one and a half million dollars to provide high speed internet service. Choice-Tel of Land O'Lakes was awarded nearly a quarter million dollars to service a large part of Vilas County.
Syrian refuges settling in the state	News	12/3/15	1230p,530p	1:30	Despite continued concerns about the safety of allowing refugees of Syrian descent into the country, Governor Scott Walker is acknowledging there's little he can actually do to keep them from being settled in Wisconsin. Walker is among many Republicans who have called on the U.S. government to stop admitting refugees into its borders, and has also instructed state agencies not to assist with settling any in Wisconsin. Still, he admits there's little he can actually

do keep it from happening. All of Wisconsin's seven voting U-S House members want to slash the federal government's role in public education. The House voted yesterday in the first major rewrite of the No Child Left Behind Act since the law expired eight years ago. Observers expect the Senate and President Obama to approve the education changes. The federal government would no longer make states adopt certain education standards, or provide incentives for doing so. That's a major victory for Wisconsin Republicans who have long opposed the state's Common Core standards. Many Wisconsinites are making less money than they did during the Great Recession. A new report from the U-S Census Bureau

					<p>says two-thirds of Wisconsin's 72 counties had drops in their median household incomes from 2009 through last year. The earlier figures were adjusted for inflation, so they're apples-to-apples with the 2014 numbers. Waukesha County, with last year's highest household income of 76-thousand dollars, had a seven-point-one-percent drop from 2009. Vilas County had the largest decline, of more than 13-percent.</p>
<p>White tail deer tests positive for wasting disease</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/4/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>A whitetail deer on a hunting preserve in Oneida County tested positive for chronic wasting disease. The animal was one of about 425 deer on the 570-acre preserve. The Dept of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection will look into the animal's history, born and shot on the preserve, and trace its</p>

movements onto the property. The business will be allowed to conduct hunts on the quarantined preserve because properly handled dead animals leaving the premises do not pose a disease risk. Citing a number of duplicates in Wisconsin's, new electronic registration system, the DNR revamped the harvest numbers from the state's nine-day gun deer season. Earlier the department stated more than 204,000 animals were killed but yesterday revealed the number is closer to 202,000. Of that totals, just over 94,000 were bucks. Marathon County tallied the most deer kills over the season. The Senate Committee on Sporting Heritage, Mining and Forestry will meet in Antigo next week. Senator Tom Tiffany, the Hazelhurst

					<p>Republican who chairs the committee said they'll listen to public testimony on a variety of bills including measures related to back tag requirements and changes to the state's managed forest law. The meeting is Wednesday at Antigo High School.</p> <p>And in sports, Detroit was ahead by 20 points at one point and the Packers were seconds away from losing when Aaron Rodgers launched a 61-yard pass caught by Richard Rogers in the end zone, putting Green Bay on top of the Lions 27-23 with no time remaining.</p>
Heroin bust in Central Wis.	News	12/4/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>A man and a woman are due in court December 14th on charges stemming from a large heroin bust in central Wisconsin. Forty-seven year old Maurice Harper and 19-year-old Kendra (treb-uh-tuss'-kee)</p>

were stopped on Interstate-39 near Coloma. Officers seized the car, 17 grams of apparent heroin, and 21-hundred dollars. Plover Police Chief Dan Ault says a regional drug unit arranged to have undercover officers buy heroin, and a search warrant was executed at a house in Plover. Prosecutors expect to file charges including possession, reckless endangerment, and maintaining a drug trafficking place.

No surprises from Wisconsin's delegation, as the U-S Senate votes to repeal key parts of Obamacare and drop federal funds for Planned Parenthood. Both measures were in a single bill that passed last night. Republican Ron Johnson, who ran for office six years ago on his opposition to the Affordable Care Act, voted in favor of repealing it.

					<p>Democrat Tammy Baldwin, a staunch supporter of Obamacare, voted no. The House must still act on the measure, after it passed a different version two months ago. The White House says the president will veto the final version if it gets to him.</p> <p>Wisconsin House Republicans Sean Duffy and Glenn Grothman were among a small minority who voted against a five-year federal transportation package. The House passed the 305-billion-dollar compromise yesterday and the Senate later voted to send it to President Obama -- who promises to sign it in time to prevent federal highway spending from expiring today.</p>
<p>Fire in Antigo destroys machine shed</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/7/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Wisconsin's Homeland Security Advisor says people see things all the time that don't seem right, but don't speak up.</p>

				<p>Adjutant General Don Dunbar says you almost always find something somebody could have done after terrorist attacks which might have headed them off. Wisconsin law enforcement and military officials are reviving a campaign with the slogan - If You See Something, Say Something. They say people should have enough character to risk being wrong.</p> <p>The man killed during a standoff with police in Neenah was actually a hostage escaping the gunman. The incident unfolded at the Eagle Nation Cycle shop Saturday. According to reports a man came running from the building carrying a weapon and was told to drop it. Police fired after that didn't happen. The suspect inside</p>
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was arrested after hours of negotiation.

A fire in Antigo last night destroyed a machine shed. Birnamwood firefighters assisted for the call on the 1100 block of Hwy Y. The large building was already engulfed in flames, destroying several cars and a boat inside. The cause is still unknown.

A new Wisconsin law requires a \$30 trail pass to ride a snowmobile on the state's snowmobile system. But the law also gives a \$20 discount to snowmobile club members. A separate \$30 registration fee for a snowmobile is still required. But instead of lasting for only two years, the registration now is good for three years before it needs to be renewed. Statewide, more than 600 snowmobile clubs maintain more than 25,000 miles of trails.

Merrill man in custody after high speed chase	News	12/7/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>Shawano Police were dispatched to a city home early this morning for reports of gun shots. Officers heard loud bangs coming from the house on East Lieg Avenue. Phone calls and PA requests to get the occupants out of the house went unheeded. The homeowner wasn't there but gave officials police permission to enter where they found two men and a 13-year old girl inside. She was released to her family and the men are in custody with charges pending. A 24-year old Merrill man is in custody following a high-speed chase through the city early last night. The Lincoln County sheriff's office reported a domestic disturbance shortly before six at a home on Hwy K north of Merrill. The suspect was reportedly intoxicated and sped off as the deputy</p>
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arrived. The pursuit ended when the man abandoned his vehicle and fled on foot in the area of the 400 block of 7th Street. He faces charges of domestic disorderly conduct, criminal damage to property, felony fleeing an officer and driving after revocation since it was revoked after a previous OWI case.

A special meeting of the Northland Pines school board tomorrow will address moving 7th and 8th grade students to the high school. A similar move was rejected by the board last year. District administrators stress the opportunities available while critics maintain the kids are too young to mix with high schoolers.

The Powerball jackpot is 145-million dollars for Wednesday night. In Mega Millions, the top prize is at

					57-million for tomorrow night.
Excessive force in juvenile homes	News	12/8/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>Wisconsin's Justice Department is investigating allegations that excessive force has been used against inmates at the state's youth prison. Corrections Secretary Ed Wall wrote to his administrators on yesterday informing them the probe at Lincoln Hills School in Irma has been going on since January. He noted there was an incident as recently as late November and the D-O-C appointed a new administrator for juvenile corrections and a new superintendent at Lincoln Hills.</p> <p>A western Wisconsin school district plans to close on tomorrow, after a threat was made. Menomonie District Administrator Joe Zydowsky told parents all district schools plan to shut</p>

down. School and police officials said last Friday they were investigating a specific threat at Menomonie High School, but they're not saying what it is. Classes are on through today as scheduled. Students were told about the threat yesterday. A final decision for Wednesday will either be announced late this afternoon, or when the incident is resolved. Wausau mayor Jim Tipple will not seek re-election after his third term ends. Instead, he will retire. Tipple took office in 2004. After 12 years in City Hall, he says he is grateful to serve the Wausau community, but he's ready to move on. Tipple's term doesn't end until April 19th, but there are already two mayoral candidates, 9th district councilman David

					Oberbeck and former Wausau police officer David Prokop. Nomination papers are accepted by the city until January 5 th .
Gun sales continue to grow	News	12/8/15	1230p,530p	1:30	Gun sales continue to grow, both in Wisconsin across the country. The state Justice Department says Black Friday set an all-time record for the background checks it performed on prospective buyers. There were 17-hundred-52 checks on November 27 th -- 30 more than the previous one-day record in late 2012, soon after the Sandy Hook school massacre in Connecticut. Analysts for the gun industry say weapon sales have continually grown since the September eleventh terrorist attacks in 2001. Industry reports show that gun sales jump when

politicians talk about gun control. The analysts also say people are more concerned about their personal safety in the wake of shooting massacres like last week in San Bernadino, California -- and the unrest from police shootings in Baltimore and Ferguson, Missouri.

A central Wisconsin man is charged with three felonies, for allegedly providing the heroin that killed another man a week ago. Forty-seven year old Brady Lindsey of Mosinee made his initial court appearance yesterday in Marathon County on charges of reckless homicide, delivering heroin, and bail jumping. Lindsey is accused of providing three grams of heroin to 39-year-old Jonas Dorzok of Mosinee, who was found dead at a house in Mosinee last Tuesday.

					<p>The state board that oversees for-profit colleges says hundreds of students who enrolled at four Wisconsin schools can get some of their loans forgiven. The U.S. Justice Department last month reached a \$95.5 million settlement with Education Management Corporation, a Pittsburgh firm that runs for-profit schools, to resolve allegations of deceptive recruiting.</p>
<p>People arrested after a drug bust in Rhineland</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/9/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Four people were arrested following a drug bust in Rhineland. City Police, the Northcentral Drug Enforcement Group, WI Department of Justice and Oneida County Sheriff's office executed a search warrant in the city Monday involving the use, manufacture and delivery of methamphetamines. Arrested were 44-year old</p>

Joel Hughes, 41-year old Chantil Rahlf, 23-year old Nichole Johnson and 27-year old Justin Helvey, all of Rhineland. One of the suspects was involved in a short chase but the incident ended quickly. They'll be charged today in Oneida County Court.

The Northland Pines School Board last night voted to move seventh and eighth grade students to the high school beginning in 2017. Administrators sought the change due to declining enrollment but parents didn't think mixing the younger students in with high schoolers was a good idea. The move was rejected last year. School officials believe the amount of time before the change will allow for more planning and provide better opportunities for the younger students.

					<p>Wisconsin's GOP leadership will not support Donald Trump for president if becomes the eventual party nominee. The 63-member Republican Assembly majority yesterday announced the move after Trump, frontrunner in the presidential polls, introduced a plan to ban all Muslims from coming to the US. Party leaders here said the comments do not reflect who Republicans are.</p> <p>Fixtures, furnishings, everything connected with the Howard Johnson Inn, in Rib Mountain are being sold to the public today beginning at ten. Demolition begins next month as a new Hilton Garden Inn will replace the long-standing business.</p>
Nicolet College offering funds to low income people	News	12/9/15	1230p,530p	1:30	The Marathon County town of Maine voted last night to

				<p>become a village to help deal with growing debt it may inherit from neighboring Brokaw. The move addresses the chance Brokaw might dissolve due to the mounting debt from the closing of its 114 year old paper mill. By incorporating into a village, Maine would have new options to deal with the financials, easing the burden on taxpayers. Wisconsin has dropped out of the top-ten in its overall health care performance. The Commonwealth Fund ranks the Badger State tied for eleventh among the 50 states and Washington D-C, down from seventh a year ago. It's not that the quality of care has declined. It's that other states have improved their systems at a faster pace. Nicolet College in Rhinelander will offer free</p>
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tuition to lower income students beginning next fall. The "Nicolet Promise" would run under the school's foundation to cover all tuition and fees after a student's state and federal grants are applied. Nicolet President Richard Nelson says the goal is to address the cost of higher education and the growing debt for graduates. He says the value of a Nicolet education is so high, that all high school grads in its district should at least look into it. Nelson says the "Nicolet Promise" is rare among schools around the country.

The Assembly's Sporting Heritage Committee may decide today whether deer hunters should no longer be required to wear back tags. Senate committee chair Tom Tiffany says he's getting mixed reaction.

Merrill man skips out on
Huber release

News

12/10/15

630a,730a,830a

1:30

On Tuesday, 32-year old Jason Lee Albers of Merrill was on Huber release from the Lincoln County jail to see his probation officer and look for a job. He never came back. The Lincoln County Sheriff's department is looking for him. Albers is 5-5, 165 pounds with brown hair and blue eyes and numerous tattoos on his arms and torso. He was convicted of property and sex crimes. Authorities don't believe him to be a threat but caution people not to approach him and to contact authorities. The four Rhinelander residents arrested at a home on Highview Parkway earlier this week in a drug investigation are formally charged. Joel Hughes, Chantil Rahlf, Nichole Johnson and Justin Helvey face a number of drug

				<p>related felonies and are back in court next week. State authorities continue to investigate a range of potential crimes at the Lincoln Hills school in Irma. They include second-degree sexual assault, physical child abuse and neglect, abuse of prisoners, strangulation and suffocation, intimidation of victims and witnesses, using pepper spray to cause bodily harm or discomfort, tampering with public records and misconduct in public office. In opening the John Doe probe in October, Lincoln County Circuit Judge Robert Russell found there was "reason to believe" these crimes had been committed, basing his decision on a sealed affidavit by a state Department of Justice investigator. Authorities are also looking into whether</p>
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					laws were violated that govern how state institutions are to be run. Two administrators were already let go.
Wis. Power plants back in the news	News	12/10/15	1230p,530p	1:30	A Wisconsin Assembly committee gave unanimous endorsement to ending the state's 32-year-old moratorium on new nuclear power plants. The Energy-and-Utilities Committee voted 13-to-nothing yesterday to recommend the proposal to the full house. The bill would end requirements that new nuclear facilities have a federal waste site available and prove their projects would not hurt electric rate-payers. Those who favor ending the ban say it's no longer needed due to the quality of today's reactors. They also say clean nuclear power would help the state meet a proposed federal rule to

				<p>lower carbon emissions. Those who still favor the moratorium say the state should look to wind, solar and other renewable energy instead.</p> <p>A special school committee in Marshfield says no to removing a book from kindergarten classes that features Kermit the Frog. A panel of educators, administrators and local residents decided last night to keep the Jim Henson book "For Every Child, A Better World" as part of the K-to-Six social studies curriculum. Marshfield School Board member Mary Carney first raised her concerns in July, saying the book deals with topics like poverty and homelessness. Carney says families should decide on their own whether the subject matter is appropriate for their young children. The School</p>
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					Board met last night but did not address the issue. It's scheduled to act on it January 13th. Supporters told the board the book has had a number of positive online reviews. Carney's concerns have attracted national attention in news outlets and social media.
High temp. records fall across the state	News	12/11/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	High temperature records fell faster than snowflakes yesterday across the state. Rhinelander hit 49, snapping the 1939 mark of 47. Madison beat a 1911 high when they hit 56. LaCrosse tied an 1886 high of 43. Numerous other records were set in Antigo, Green Bay, Marshfield, Merrill, Wausau and Wisconsin Rapids. Winter recreation is at a standstill with no snow, no ice and nothing in the forecast but rain for the next several days. Organizers of one event keeping an eye on

the weather is the American Birkebeiner. In the 44-year history of North America's largest cross country ski marathon from Cable to Hayward, the race has only been cancelled once. Officials say it's still early enough and they're not nervous about the weather yet. Racers take off February 20th. Birkie executive director Ben Popp said anytime you get 10-to-15,000 skiers using a single trail, you need a lot of snow. At the Eagle River Derby Track it's ice that's needed and the mild temperatures are hampering the ability to build the high banked corners needed for the world championship races next month. One of the bills lawmakers will see next year would create off-highway

				<p>motorcycle trails. Authored by Crivitz Republican assemblyman Jeff Mursau, the measure would develop a program similar to those applying to ATVs and UTVs in the state, where local municipalities can designate routes and corridors through land it owns or controls. The bill received unanimous, bipartisan support from the committee on natural resources and sporting heritage. The assembly is back in session next month.</p>
<p>FBI joins investigation into abuse at Lincoln Hills</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/11/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p> <p>The F-B-I has joined state officials investigating alleged abuses by staffers at the Lincoln Hills School for juvenile offenders in northern Wisconsin, although a spokesman for the agency won't say how they're involved. The state Justice Department has spent all year looking into allegations that reportedly</p>

				<p>include the physical abuse and sexual assaults of teen offenders and victim-and-witness intimidation at the facility in the Lincoln County town of Irma. At least ten staffers have been put on paid leave and two administrators replaced. Seven Wisconsin counties would get an additional circuit judge under a bill going through the state Legislature. The Assembly Judiciary panel held a public hearing yesterday on a proposal to add court branches in Wood, Dunn, Polk, Jackson, Vilas, Calumet, and Marathon counties. Wausau Republican Dave Heaton says all seven are among ten counties with the heaviest caseloads per judge throughout the state. An animal rehab expert says those who hunt-and-fish can help preserve</p>
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					<p>Wisconsin's record bald eagle population. A D-N-R survey found 14-hundred-65 occupied bald eagle nests, about 120 more than two years ago. But Mark Naniot of the Wild Instincts Rehab center near Rhinelander says he has seen six eagles with lead poisoning in the last six weeks. He says the habitat remains fragile, and hunters-and-anglers can help by not using bullets and fishing lures containing lead. Naniot says the lead is the most prevalent cause of eagle admissions to his facility -- and it's a tedious process to treat them.</p>
<p>Changes to be made at Lincoln Hills</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/14/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>The Wisconsin Department of Corrections will add security supervisors and body cameras to help make things safer for youth offenders held at the Lincoln Hills School for Boys in Irma. State and federal investigations have focused on allegations prison staff assaulted boys and</p>

committed many other crimes. At least two top corrections officials have left their jobs and another 10 workers have been put on paid leave. The state is holding 141 boys at Lincoln Hills and another 19 girls at the Copper Lake School for Girls. A group of Milwaukee County supervisors have asked a judge to send no more juvenile offenders there until the safety issues are resolved.

A 68-year-old man missing for two days in far northern Wisconsin has been found dead. Local residents joined multiple law enforcement agencies and their K-9 officers in a search for Alan Kangas. He was reported missing Friday afternoon, and searchers found his body yesterday afternoon in a wooded area at Iron Belt in Iron County. Sheriff's deputies have not said how Kangas disappeared, or from where.

It seems that lots of people in Wadena, Minnesota were not happy when a Wisconsin group threatened a lawsuit over a

					<p>Nativity scene in that city's downtown park. Mayor George Deiss (dice) now says at least one-thousand scenes of the Baby Jesus' birth have popped up in front yards, store windows, and elsewhere. But none are on public property, after Madison's Freedom From Religion Foundation challenged the legality of a 40-year-old Christmas display in the Wadena park. The City Council voted last month to remove the display, after somebody complained to the foundation. Wadena has about four-thousand people, which means there's now about one Nativity scene for every four residents in that west central Minnesota community. The one in the park was given to local ministers.</p>
<p>Unseasonable weather for the state for Dec..</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/14/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1::30</p>	<p>Santa Claus may have to use a boat instead of a sleigh to deliver toys in Wisconsin. Flood warnings are out for parts of eight rivers, and they could last into next week. Portions of southwest Wisconsin had almost five inches</p>

of rain since yesterday (Sunday) morning. Flash flood watches remain in effect until late-afternoon in much of the state, including parts of Northeastern WI. Forecasters predict rain to continue through the early evening.

U-S Senator Ron Johnson gets into the holiday spirit by preparing care packages for overseas troops. He joined volunteers and staffers at the Marathon County Republican headquarters in Wausau yesterday, saying he wanted to thank those who've served-and-sacrificed for our country.

Johnson also chewed on some issues with reporters -- including what the U-S should do to lessen the Islamic State's influence in Iraq and Syria. Johnson, who chairs the Senate's Homeland Security panel, says President Obama should put together what he calls a "coalition of the willing" to start taking back territory held by the Islamic State.

					<p>(Mequon, WI) -- A snake wiggled its way onto an electric line north of Milwaukee, surprising 25-hundred We Energies' customers with power outages. It happened around noon yesterday in Mequon and Thiensville. The outage only lasted about one hour, but it was quite a surprise for those affected. Utility spokesman Brian Manthey says birds of prey will occasionally drop a snake onto a power line -- but squirrels and chipmunks are the most common animals that cause outages.</p>
<p>Small fire at Miller beer in Milwaukee</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/15/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Miller Brewing says a small electrical fire at a packaging plant in Milwaukee may have been started by the building's Holiday Lites display. But the fire department and Miller-Coors officials have not confirmed the exact cause. No one was injured. The plant was shut down for about an hour early last (Monday) evening, and it took crews ten minutes to put out the fire. Miller-Coors spokeswoman Jackie Pride tells W-I-T-I T-V the plant was evacuated for safety reasons, based on early reports about the incident.</p> <p>Governor Scott Walker will get some help in paying off debts from his</p>

former presidential campaign. G-O-P candidate Ted Cruz has asked his supporters to help Walker cover debts that were estimated at one-million dollars as of mid-October. In a tweet, the U-S senator from Texas says "I stand with my friend Scott Walker, and hope you will, too." The tweet links to a Walker website that offers a lapel pin with a Walker logo for those giving 30-dollars or more in the coming days. The Walker White House campaign lasted just over two months before rising expenses and declining poll numbers did him in. The governor dropped out of the race September 21st.

A jury found a 20-year-old Minnesota man not guilty on all counts today (Monday)in the death of a fisherman along the St. Croix River last spring. Levi Acre-Kendall, of Cambridge, Minnesota, was charged with first-degree reckless homicide, second-degree intentional homicide and second-degree reckless homicide. Acre-Kendall testified that he stabbed 34-year-old Peter Kelly, of St. Croix Falls, last April because he felt his life was being threatened. He said Kelly, a wrestling coach, pursued him during a confrontation. Acre-Kendall's attorney, Eric Nelson, is not sure when Acre-Kendall will be released--he still has to face bail jumping charges related to his Twitter use after he was charged.

<p>Wisconsin has been tapped for a new program</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/15/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>The head of the state Public Records Board says a recent policy change was so minor, it did not have to be mentioned in a legal advance notice of the board's August meeting. The Wisconsin Freedom of Information Council filed a complaint yesterday with the Dane County district attorney's office, accusing the board of breaking the state Open Meetings Law. The council says the board's policy change was significant enough that those who ask for certain records are being told they're not available. The Wisconsin State Journal was turned away after asking for text messages related to a half-million dollar business loan tied to a Walker campaign donor.</p> <p>Wisconsin has been selected to host a new cyber protection unit for the National Guard. Governor Scott Walker says the state is teaming up with Illinois for a unit that will work with a host of public-and-private institutions. The new unit will create a comprehensive strategy to mitigate risks to the military's tech-related infrastructure. Also, the National Guard will have an emulation team specialize in simulating the newest techniques against cyber-related adversaries.</p> <p>The attorney for the man found not-guilty in the Saint Croix River murder</p>
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				<p>case says there were plea deals offered while the jury was deliberating. But Eric Nelson says none materialized, which paid off for his client. The jury acquitted 20-year-old Levi Acre-Kendall of Cambridge, Minnesota yesterday on three homicide-related counts in Polk County for the April stabbing death of wrestling coach Brian Kelly. Acre-Kendall claimed self-defense, saying he retreated in a scuffle with the 34-year-old Kelly after a long argument between fishermen along the river at Saint Croix Falls.</p>
<p>Kohler workers may return to work</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/16/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p> <p>After being on strike for four-and-a-half weeks, union workers at the Kohler Company might return to their jobs as early as tomorrow. That's after a tentative agreement was reached late last night on a four-year contract. About 21-hundred members of the United Auto Workers union are scheduled to vote on the deal this evening, with the prospect of ending the first strike since 1983 at the Kohler toilet-and-faucet giant. The new pact does not achieve the union's goal of eliminating a two-tiered pay system. But Local 833 president Tim Tayloe says it does narrow the pay gap between new employees and Kohler veterans.</p> <p>The flu season has arrived later than last year. In Milwaukee, three people have been hospitalized for the flu --</p>

				<p>down from 55 at this time a year ago. Paul (bid-zick-ee) of the Milwaukee Health Department expects the flu season to reach its peak in January. It peaked during the holidays in each of the last two years.</p> <p>A driver killed in a three-vehicle crash in northern Wisconsin has been identified as 76-year-old Lawrence Setterman of Fifield (fy-field). The State Patrol says Setterman's car crossed a center-line, sideswiped an oncoming vehicle, and then hit another unit head-on. It happened Monday afternoon near Park Falls on Highway 13. The other drivers, a 47-year-old Park Falls man and a 48-year-old Phillips man, both had minor injuries. The mishap is still being investigated.</p> <p>After more than a year without a bishop, the Diocese of Superior announced yesterday that a bishop has been chosen. The Very Reverend James Patrick Powers will be joining the church. The Vatican made the announcement, saying that the 62-year-old Powers had held the same seat at St. Joseph Parish in Rice Lake.</p>	
Wisconsin city moving money to different budgets	News	12/16/15	1230p,530p	1:30	You'll often hear about communities under-estimating their snow removal budgets. This year, it's the opposite due to a lack of snow throughout most of Wisconsin. In Marshfield, the mild December has allowed the city to move

30-thousand dollars from this year's snow removal budget to the city's forestry program. Public works director Dan Knoeck (kuh-neck') says it will allow the city to complete tree-related projects that normally go unfinished during the winter.

A Wisconsin State senator is apologizing to "anyone offended" by his recent retweet of a message that included a profane, derogatory reference to Republican Governor Scott Walker. Dave Hansen, a Democrat from Green Bay, released a statement with his apology yesterday. In the statement, he also offered an explanation that he was trying to share a tweet about new limits on political corruption investigations, and he inadvertently retweeted the message that was derogatory to the governor and people with disabilities.

Just because you love the Green Bay Packers doesn't mean you can have your ashes spread on their home field after you die. A Packers fan found that out Sunday, when a fan asked several police officers for the okay to spread a deceased relative's ashes on the Lambeau turf. That was during the Packers' win over the Dallas Cowboys. According to the Green Bay Press-Gazette, police captain Paul Ebel told the fan they'd have to "stop the game and call the fire department in to

					analyze the substance" that would have been thrown on the field. That person was not arrested, but a Dallas fan was arrested for going onto the turf to take a selfie.
Jason Huber taken back into custody	News	12/17/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>Jason Albers, a Huber walk away from the Lincoln County Jail has been taken into custody in New Mexico. Albers left the Lincoln County Jail under the Huber law on December 8th to speak to a job coordinator and see his probation agent. He did not return. Yesterday the New Mexico State Police took Albers into custody. Albers will be extradited back to Wisconsin after completing his charges in New Mexico. He will face a local charge for fleeing custody.</p> <p>Union workers at the Kohler Company are returning to their jobs today, after approving a new contract which ends a 32-day strike.</p>

				<p>Ninety-one percent of those voting at Plymouth High School yesterday ratified the four-year deal. A tentative agreement was reached Tuesday to increase wages for the 21-hundred Kohler union employees. They'll also get better pension benefits, and protections against rising health insurance costs. The deal does not eliminate a two-tiered wage system, one of the union's main reasons for walking out. But U-A-W local president Tim Tayloe says it reduces the pay gap between starting workers and company veterans. Those who want Wisconsin to manage its own grey wolves will figure out what to do next, after the proposal was left out of the congressional year-end spending-and-tax bill.</p>
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					<p>Sherwood Republican Reid Ribble co-sponsored an amendment to the budget package, but it did not make the final version on Tuesday. It would have nullified a judge's ruling from a year ago which put wolves in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Upper Michigan back under federal protections. It ended the Badger State's wolf hunt, and stopped letting farmers kill wolves that threaten their crops and livestock.</p>
Young boy found safe	News	12/17/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>A nine-year old boy who was sought in a statewide Amber Alert has been found unharmed, and his mother was arrested for allegedly taking him from his custodial father. He was found yesterday (Wednesday) about 100 miles to the west near Wisconsin Rapids. Wood County sheriff's deputies say they arrested Connie Smiley after her car was partially hidden by a tarp in the driveway of a friend's house. The Amber Alert said Smiley was thought to be mentally ill and had talked about harming the youngsters. She faces several possible charges.</p>

					<p>The probe into the Lincoln Hills School for Boys in Irma intensified following a November 29th incident in which a staff member shoved an inmate into his room and slammed the door, catching the inmate's foot against the jamb and leaving it so mangled that toes had to be amputated. The same staff member also punched the closed metal door hard enough to require medical attention himself just after the incident, which was captured on video that is now in the hands of law enforcement. In the past two months alone at the prison, two teenage girls hanged themselves to the point of losing consciousness, a staff member allegedly pepper-sprayed two juvenile inmates who were complying with orders, and a staff member allegedly battered another staff member, according to the 258 pages of documents released to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel under the open records law.</p> <p>The police dog for the Marshfield Police Department is retiring after a busy six years. Police Chief Rick Gramza says Arco has responded to hundreds of calls and helped make 150 arrests. Tuesday night, Marshfield aldermen approved the spending of almost 20-thousand dollars in K-Nine donations, to buy and train a new dog.</p>
Gov. Walker told of problems	News	12/18/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	Governor Scott Walker's office

at Lincoln Hills

was reportedly told multiple times this year about ongoing violence and inadequate class time at the Lincoln Hills school for juvenile offenders. Madison and Milwaukee newspapers say Walker's office was given earlier chances to solve problems at the state's secure youth center at Irma in Lincoln County. The reports say Lincoln Hills was deemed safe when a retired worker raised safety concerns -- and a youngster had toes amputated after a staffer tried pushing him into his room. Walker spokeswoman Jocelyn Webster points to the corrections agency's referral of the problems to the Justice Department last January, and the governor's recent steps to improve safety.

More of Wisconsin's habitual drunk drivers would have their licenses revoked under a bill endorsed by the Assembly Judiciary Committee. The panel voted unanimously yesterday to permanently revoke licenses of anyone caught driving drunk five

times or more -- but they could petition the D-O-T for reinstatements after ten years. The committee also recommended a bill that closes a loophole in the state's hit-and-run law. It would stop requiring proof that hit-and-run drivers knew they struck people, and to force drivers to stop at crash scenes. Both measures now go to the full Assembly.

An outside consultant says there's no need to rebuild the structure of Wisconsin's job creation agency. The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation has endured three years of allegations that it made questionable business loans and did not always monitor job creation loans and grants. However, the Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness says the W-E-D-C made "significant progress" to address its issues, and any major changes would be "counter-productive." The report was presented yesterday (Thursday) at a W-E-D-C board

					meeting in Appleton. Assembly Democratic Minority Leader Peter Barca will keep pursuing his bill to replace the agency, saying taxpayers need to be protected.
Wis. Roads ranked 3 rd last in the country	News	12/21/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>Wisconsin's roads are ranked third worst in the nation. According to the American Society of Civil Engineers, 71% of the state's roads are in poor or mediocre condition with nearly 2000 bridges either structurally deficient or functionally obsolete. Lawmakers have been struggling with the issue, delaying a number of projects, borrowing over a billion dollars and still not having long term plans for maintaining Wisconsin roads.</p> <p>Shoppers were sent running for cover over the weekend, after gun shots rang out inside Madison's</p>

East Towne Mall. City Police said a 19-year-old man was taken to a hospital with a leg wound after an argument between two groups of teenagers turned violent. At least 10 people were involved in the shooting.

The mild start to the heating season is combining with the lowest natural gas prices in 16 years. Just two years ago bitter cold kept furnaces running nonstop but heating costs this winter could be up to 50% below that time. The state's major utilities all point to their customers paying less for heat and the National Weather Service reports this month ranks as the third warmest December on record.

Milwaukee Bucks coach Jason Kidd is taking indefinite leave to have hip

					<p>surgery. Assistant coach Joe Prunty will direct the team in his absence. Kidd said in a team statement that he "tried to put off surgery for as long as he could," but his doctor told him he'd be better served having the operation now.</p> <p>And the Packers are in the playoffs, knocking off Oakland yesterday 30-20.</p>
<p>Lincoln Co. Sherrifs have busy weekend</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/21/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>House Speaker Paul Ryan of Janesville is brushing off conservative critics of the federal spending package that keeps the government in business through next September. Ryan said the G-O-P was able to advance many, but not all of its "priorities and principles" in the one-point-one trillion dollar package. They include an end to export ban on crude oil, but some conservatives failed to get other things like</p>

tighter entry limits on Syrian refugees. Still, 150 Republicans voted for the package -- more than what former Speaker John Boehner often rounded up. Ryan says nobody gets all of what they want in the current "divided government," and he vows that the G-O-P will pick up where it left off next year. The Lincoln County Sheriff's department had a busy weekend...two people we taken into custody Saturday night in the town of Russell. Deputies stopped a vehicle traveling near 90-mph. The 23-year old driver from Bryant failed a sobriety test. Sunday morning, a 33-year old Tomahawk man was arrested on a fourth OWI offense. Later that afternoon a two car crash slowed traffic on Hwy K in the Town of Scott. The two Merrill residents in the

					<p>vehicles refused medical treatment. Lincoln county Sheriff Jeff Jaeger reminds everyone his department will be working to keep the highways safe throughout the holidays. More than 400 people have died in traffic crashes, eight of those in Lincoln county. He urges all drivers to slow down, buckle up, watch the drinking and enjoy the holiday.</p>
<p>Consolidation of Antigo schools could be on spring referendum</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/22/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Consolidating elementary schools in the Antigo School District could be on a referendum ballot this spring. The school board couldn't reach a decision last week on the project and meet again tonight at the high school on the future of several buildings in the district.</p> <p>A Rhinelander man turned himself into police following the vandalism to the Hodag Statue. Last week several</p>

claws were broken off the iconic symbol at the Chamber office and in an email to a local paper, Jordan Henk said he was one of two people responsible and apologized for his actions. On his Facebook page Henk said he reported the crime last Friday.

Two recent incidents in Taylor County prompted the Sheriff's Office to warn people about a man impersonating an officer within the city of Medford. In both cases a dark-colored vehicle with red and blue grille lights stopped motorists. Officers stress emergency vehicles have more lighting than what's being used. Both incidents appear to be random and the suspect is described as a white male in his 30s, about six feet tall with dark hair.

					<p>The Federal Aviation Administration now requires drone owners to register their aircraft. The FAA has an online registration page in place and registration will need to be renewed every three. A spokesman said the concerns the federal agency is attempting to address are real as these craft are now interfering with all aspects of law enforcement, firefighting and airline travel. He said the FAA is trying to get a better handle on these devices.</p>
Home sales brisk in the state	News	12/22/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>Wisconsin officials say the state has received federal approval to extend a prescription drug assistance program for older residents. The state Department of Health Services said in a statement Monday that SeniorCare helps about 60,000 people each month</p>

by reducing prescription costs for low-income state residents who are 65 or older. DHS spokeswoman Claire Yunker says the action from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will allow SeniorCare to operate through 2018.

November marked another strong month for home sales and prices in Wisconsin. A report from the Wisconsin Realtors Association shows sales are on pace to end the year at their highest level in a decade. WRA economist Dave Clark said it was a "solid November," with members selling about 4,800 homes at a median price of \$150,000. Both figures are up 3.4 percent from a year ago.

Do you have room on your Christmas tree for one more

					<p>ornament? The State Capitol Restoration Fund hopes you'll choose theirs. It appears that sales are slower-than-normal for the annual ornament -- and this one features one of the elegant door knobs and brass plates at the Capitol which include the state seal. Proceeds are used for improvements at the statehouse, one of which is a walkway near the top of the rotunda that will open to the general public. You can still get an expedited delivery of the ornament before Christmas, and more information is available at the Wisconsin Historical Society's website.</p>
<p>Antigo voters will decide whether 5 schools will be closed</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/23/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Voters in the Antigo School District will decide in April whether or not to close five elementary schools, build a new one and renovate two others. The school board made its final presentation</p>

				<p>last night. Declining enrollments and high maintenance costs prompted the decision. Two fugitives facing murder charges in California have been captured in central Wisconsin. It's unknown what brought 46-year-old William Henry Smith and 54-year-old Julie Lynn Moss who were captured in Wisconsin Rapids, to the state. Few details are available about the California crime as well. Police came in contact with Smith and Moss about 7:30 Sunday night in a restaurant parking lot. They were in court yesterday and told a judge they would contest extradition back to California. Steven Morris will spend four years in prison after assaulting a sheriff's deputy. The 28-year old Rhinelander man was convicted of</p>
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					<p>battery, resisting arrest and other charges where he pepper sprayed the deputy in the face during a traffic stop near Tomahawk last summer. The deputy sustained injuries during the altercation and is on light duty.</p> <p>Theft and criminal damage to property charges face two men after breaking several claws off the Hodag statue at the Chamber of Commerce office last week. 27-year old Jordan Henk of Rhinelander and 31-year old Evan Christianson of Madison were both allegedly drinking and smoking pot prior to the incident, which is now in the hands of the Oneida County district attorney. Chamber officials say if repairs can't be made the entire statue may need to be replaced.</p>
Antigo man to face prison	News	12/23/15	1230p,530p	1:30	An Antigo man will spend

time

five years in prison for burning his boss' business. Forty-year-old Chadwick Wogsland must also spend six years under extended supervision when he gets out, after a plea deal convicted him of arson and fleeing officers. Marathon County authorities say Wogsland was involved in a domestic disturbance in the Antigo area last December. Officers then chased him to his workplace at the Bushman Potato Farms' warehouse near Wittenberg. He escaped the pursuers by setting the warehouse on fire. Madison attorney Claude Covelli has dropped out of a four-way contest for the State Supreme Court in next spring's elections. He says he had a "great" response to his campaign, but it started too late and he no longer has enough time to

get his message out before the mid-February primary. Some Wisconsin fire officials are telling churches they cannot have real Christmas trees, and those bans would end under a bill from Republican state lawmakers. Kewaskum Representative Jesse Kremer took action after a pastor in his hometown was told his church can't have a real tree after this year, and the fire marshal in nearby Jackson banned them because they're too dangerous. Kremer, a fire inspector, says the state code allows churches to have real trees with adequate safeguards like proper water and safe lighting. The bill would also prohibit bans on real trees in the State Capitol Rotunda. G-O-P Assembly Speaker Robin Vos supports it, saying it's wrong for

					"bureaucrats to play the Grinch in every church in Wisconsin at Christmas."
Snow falls overnight	News	12/24/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>Worries about not having a white Christmas were quickly set aside as anywhere from three to eight inches of snow fell overnight. What began with a thundering lead-in, over an inch and a half of rain fell that's left roads slippery this morning and utility crews scrambling to repair power lines downed by high winds or the heavy snow. Early this morning more than 8300 customers of Wisconsin Public Service were without power, nearly 3000 of those in Merrill alone. Over 1100 were in the dark in Rhinelander. The weather system was ushered in yesterday on record high temperatures with Green Bay snapping the 1888 mark of 47 when they hit 50. Wausau tied its</p>

1957 mark of 42. Colder temperatures and accumulating snow are forecast into the beginning of next week.

A Rhinelander High School senior was arrested after eluding authorities on a four-wheeler. The 18-year old rode the ATV in front of the building Tuesday, prompting a brief chase by police at speeds up to 40-mph. The driver and passenger were not wearing helmets and shot through two stop signs. The officer reportedly recognized the student, ended the pursuit and waited by the individual's truck where he was arrested.

Unemployment rates rose across most of Wisconsin's largest cities in November. Preliminary data from the state Department of Workforce Development

					<p>released yesterday show unemployment rates rose in every Wisconsin county from October to November. Menominee County had the highest rate at seven-point-eight percent. In cities, the highest was six-point-one percent in Racine.</p>
<p>Rhineland man arrested after eluding police on ATV.</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/24/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Worries about not having a white Christmas were quickly set aside as anywhere from three to eight inches of snow fell overnight. What began with a thundering lead-in, over an inch and a half of rain fell that's left roads slippery this morning and utility crews scrambling to repair power lines downed by high winds or the heavy snow. Early this morning more than 8300 customers of Wisconsin Public Service were without power, nearly 3000 of those in Merrill alone. Over 1100 were in</p>

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<p>Winter storm to affect the area</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/28/15</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>A significant winter storm will impact North Central Wisconsin beginning this afternoon and continue into the morning hours Tuesday. The leading edge of snow, mixed with some sleet south and east of Wausau, will arrive during the evening commute. Snow is expected to then fall heavy at times tonight,</p>

creating some hazardous travel conditions by tomorrow. The snow is forecast to taper to snow showers leading up to daybreak Tuesday and come to an end by mid to late morning Tuesday. Total snowfall in the area of 5 to 10 inches is expected with locally higher amounts in central & northeast Wisconsin. Wind gusts over 25 mph will add to driving problems.

Ashland Police have identified the three people who died in a double murder and suicide. 23-year-old Zhara Parent and her 84-year-old mother in law, Patricia Parent were found dead with gunshot wounds Christmas Eve by a family member visiting the home. Police believe they were shot by Patricia Parent's 54-year-old son Daniel Parent. He was also

					<p>found dead at the scene.</p> <p>A power failure at the Waukesha wastewater treatment plant dumped over one million gallons of untreated sewage flowing into the Fox River. City officials say the problem started when a falling tree hit the main power feed and a backup generators failed. Power was restored about five hours later.</p> <p>Arizona sacked Aaron Rodgers eight times and returned two of his fumbles for touchdowns yesterday in a dominant 38-8 win. Sunday's game against Minnesota for the division title has been moved to 8:00.</p>
<p>Winter storm warnings posted across the state</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/28/15</p>	<p>1230p,530p</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Winter storm warnings are posted in all of Wisconsin, as most of the state braces for its first major snow of the season. Two-to-ten inches</p>

are in the forecast, with the highest totals expected in western and central areas through tomorrow afternoon. The National Weather Service says we'll also have strong wind gusts of up to 45-miles-per-hour as a strong low-pressure system goes through Wisconsin -- and some places could see up to one-inch of snow each hour during the storm's peak. All the snow doesn't bode well for ice conditions across Wisconsin either as conditions vary widely from open water to just a few inches. Two men died yesterday afternoon on Glen Loch Lake in Chippewa County when a 76-year old Chippewa Falls man fell through and a 33-year old Bloomer man perished after trying to rescue him. State officials warn people that ice

					<p>conditions remain dangerous because of the mild start to the season.</p> <p>A waterfall near Hurley known as Interstate or Montreal Falls will stay open to visitors, after its owners sold the site to the Northwoods Land Trust. The group bought 38 acres along the Montreal River on Wisconsin's border with Upper Michigan. Donald and Nancy Siebert agreed a year ago to sell the site for 188-thousand dollars. But the Land Trust just recently completed its financing with the help of donations and a Wisconsin Stewardship. The area offers a wide variety of recreational opportunities from trout streams to hiking and hunting.</p>
Winter storms hit Wisconsin	News	12/29/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	The winter season's first snow storm brought near blizzard conditions to parts of Wisconsin, dumping over

				<p>a foot of snow in some locations. Communities across Central, eastern and southern Wisconsin have snow emergencies limiting travel so road crews can clear things out. Drifting snow is a big problem as winds whipped up over 50 mph, toppling gas station canopies in the Milwaukee area. Gusty NE winds will continue today. As forecasters noted, both Oneida and Vilas Counties were spared the brunt of the storm, getting 3-6" of snow on average. As the storm moved North it tied up traffic and caused numerous fender benders and cancelled flights from Chicago's O'Hare to CWA in Mosinee. The snow is a welcome sight for businesses and winter enthusiasts as some snowmobile trails have opened, but people are</p>
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					<p>asked to check about those, first. Area ski trails have also been helped out, not only by the fresh snow, but the colder temperatures needed to make their own powder. Ice conditions however vary widely with most lakes still very dangerous. Just before 1:00 yesterday afternoon, the Vilas County Sheriff's Department got a 911 report of a two vehicle crash near St. Germain in the town of Cloverland. An eastbound car on Hwy 70 near County "O" attempted a U-turn into the path of an oncoming vehicle. A 68-year old St. Germain woman and 43-year old Kingsford, MI man were injured and taken to Howard Young Medical Center in Woodruff. Their injuries or identities have not been released.</p>
Crash in marathon Co.	News	12/29/15	1230p,530p	1:30	A Marathon County plow

and a semi truck were heavily damaged after a collision on Hwy 29 early this morning. The crash occurred just after 1:00 near White Birch Road in the town of Ringle.

Investigators say the plow was hit from behind and closed the highway for about two hours. No one was hurt but the truck driver was cited. Roads, like many across the state, were snow-covered and slippery. Eastern and Southern Wisconsin got the brunt of the season's first major snowstorm. Various advisories and warnings were lifted early this morning as the storm passed but not before dumping more than a foot in the Green Bay area. Milwaukee had a record nine inches for the date along with 60-mph winds. Another several inches in

the southeast, along with some freezing rain over much of the area, including the north.

The two ice fishermen who drowned on Glen Loch Lake near Chippewa Falls have been identified. 33-year old Brandon Rogers of Bloomer fell through the ice Sunday and 76-year old William Ruf of Chippewa Falls attempted to rescue him when he slipped under. Both were given CPR at the scene but died later at a hospital.

Rhinelanders' Salvation Army surpassed their \$30,000 goal during the holiday bell ringing Red Kettle Campaign.

Coordinator Kim Swisher reported almost \$35,000 was collected as of yesterday and there's still more to tally. Nearly 300 volunteers filled 189 bell ringing shifts in locations

					across the city.
Cruiserfest cancelled due to lack of ice	News	12/30/15	630a,730a,830a	1:30	<p>Just days after a gunman killed nine people at a community college in Oregon, Wisconsin lawmakers introduced a bill allowing concealed carry on state campuses. However Assembly Speaker Robin Vos says that probably won't happen soon. The Rochester Republican said he supports the measure in concept but there hasn't been a strong push for it. Weapons are allowed on college campuses but not in classrooms or stadiums. Citing the unsafe ice conditions, organizers of Minocqua's popular CruiserFest cancelled the event. Sponsored by the Cross Country Cruisers Snowmobile Club, the event was scheduled for the weekend of February 12th. Organizers said they're disappointed but for both safety and economic reasons it's better to cancel early than wait to see if conditions would improve. Long range forecasts don't hold out much hope. The event is the club's largest fundraiser and has</p>

					<p>been run the last 16 years. Officials at the World Championship Snowmobile Derby track in Eagle River say everything's a go for next weekend's Vintage races. Workers have been building the ice oval track and snowcross course in the infield for weeks and say everything's in great shape. The 53rd running of the Derby is set for January 14th thru the 17th.</p> <p>Meanwhile snowmobile trails in the Hurley area are reportedly groomed and in good condition. Nearly 80% of the trails opened Monday. Vilas County trails are set to open at 8:00 this morning and officials say to avoid the lakes and stay on the marked trails.</p>
Snowmobile trails beginning to open across the area	News	12/30/15	1230p,530p	1:30	<p>State prosecutors have again asked a federal judge to let them hang on to evidence gathered in two former John Doe probes of Governor Scott Walker's associates and recall campaign. The</p>

prosecutors asked Federal Judge Lynn Adelman last month to let them keep evidence from both probes, so they can defend themselves in a lawsuit from ex-Walker aide Cindy Archer. That was after the State Supreme Court decided this month to hang onto the evidence themselves, rather than order that it be scrapped or returned to its original owners. Archer accuses chief John Doe prosecutor John Chisholm of running a "continuous campaign of harassment" against supporters of the governor. The first Doe probe resulted in six convictions against mainly those in Walker's former Milwaukee County Executive's office -- and the second Doe into G-O-P recall campaigns was cut short before charges could be filed.

					<p>Snowmobile trails are slowly opening across the North with Iron and Vilas Counties the latest but officials say heavy use will erode things quickly. More snow and cold is needed to firm up the base needed to maintain the trails and trail bosses say they don't have one yet. Lakes are also extremely unsafe and all local clubs stress staying on the marked trails and off the water. Nothing is open yet in Oneida County. Riders are told to expect plenty of rough spots and some wet travel in the low lying areas. Also watch for logging trucks still working in several locations.</p>
<p>Lawmakers decide if state counties can allow for higher taxes</p>	<p>News</p>	<p>12/31/</p>	<p>630a,730a,830a</p>	<p>1:30</p>	<p>Lawmakers from both political parties indicated support for a bill allowing voters in all of the state's 72 counties to decide whether or not to increase local</p>

sales taxes to repair and maintain local roads. The Assembly Transportation Committee recently voted let counties add a one-half percent sales tax for road repairs, with approval from the voters every four years. State gasoline tax revenues have been declining as legislators grapple with how to ensure a stable long-term funding source for transportation. But there's been almost no interest for the measure in the Senate, where only Hazelhurst Republican Senator Tom Tiffany signed on to the bill.

The Wisconsin WINS program is a science-based, state level initiative designed to curb access to tobacco products by kids. It also conducts tobacco compliance checks on retailers, visiting local businesses to see if they're

					<p>following the law and educating those that are not. A recent check across the north found Vilas County with an illegal sell rate of nearly 23%, up from last year's 13.5% . Statistics show smokers die an average of 10 years earlier than non smokers. Oneida county compliance was at 14.6%, Forest at 21.1, Florence at 9.1, Lincoln at 13.8 and Price at 9.5% 23rd-ranked Wisconsin capped off a ten-and-three season by winning its first back-to-back bowls since 2006. Rafael Gaglianone kicked a 29-yard field goal with two-and-a-half minutes left, to give Wisconsin a 23-to-21 victory over U-S-C at the Holiday Bowl in San Diego.</p>
Interview	Phone	12/4/15	835a	3 min	Talked to Karen Geier from the Lakeland Sharing Foundation about how people can donate various items to help people in the community

