

## Quarterly Issues/Programs List

Station: wobt  
Quarter: 1st (jan)  
Year: 2015

ISSUE DESCRIPTION	PROGRAM SEGMENT	DATE	TIME	DURATION	DESCRIPTION OF SEGMENT
Drug testing for public assistance	News	1/1/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Despite criticism for the plan, Governor Scott Walker still intends to pursue a drug testing requirement for many individuals receiving public assistance. While on the campaign trail the governor proposed drug testing for those receiving taxpayer-funded assistance, such as food stamps and unemployment benefits. Critics argue the plan could violate federal laws, and the governor says that is a concern he plans to address. Drug testing requirements in other states have faced legal challenges. While the specific details of his proposal are still being

worked out, Walker insists tying the measure to helping people gain employment could allow him to achieve the results he's looking for.

For the third time this decade, downtown Eagle River's ice castle will not be built. In a two sentence statement, fire chief Patrick Weber said because of the poor ice conditions on Silver Lake and the fact they'll run out of time to build the palace before the snowmobile races if they were to wait for more cold weather, prompted the decision. The department and volunteers have been building the winter landmark for over 80 years.

If you have travel plans going into this first weekend of the new year, keep an eye on the weather. A complex storm system is

					expected late Friday stretching through Sunday and is likely to keep the cold temperatures, bitter wind chills and snow. The national weather service says things are still developing but the system is worth watching the next few days especially for travel across central and north central Wisconsin.
Eagle Rivers ice castle wont be built	News	1/1/15	12p,5p	1:30	Despite criticism for the plan, Governor Scott Walker still intends to pursue a drug testing requirement for many individuals receiving public assistance. While on the campaign trail the governor proposed drug testing for those receiving taxpayer-funded assistance, such as food stamps and unemployment benefits. Critics argue the plan could violate federal laws, and the governor says that is a concern he plans to address. Drug testing

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Attorney general defending state gay marriage ban	News	1/2/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Wisconsin's Attorney General JB Van Hollen says defending the state's gay marriage ban was the right thing to do. Even though the constitutional amendment was eventually struck down and some accused of him being on the wrong side of history, he says it was his job to stand by the measure. Had he not

defended it, Van Hollen says the state likely would have spent millions of taxpayer dollars hiring outside attorneys to do the work.

An early morning accident in Marathon County yesterday may have been triggered by a medical condition. The Sheriff's department reported the accident around 6:30 near County Line Road and Ice Age Lane, east of Knowlton in the town of Bevent. The 66-year old driver apparently suffered a medical event and left the roadway. Two passengers in the vehicle were not hurt. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

The Community Blood Center will have a local voice on its board of directors moving into the new year. Jerry Shidell of

Rhinelander takes the post next week and says he'll bring a unique perspective being from the North. The organization is based in Appleton and provides much of the blood used at all area hospitals. Shidell said being a volunteer, organizing blood drives and being an active donor himself should help maintain a consistent supply of blood for hospitals moving forward.

Behind a record-setting performance from running back Melvin Gordon and with Barry Alvarez again on the sidelines, the Wisconsin Badgers beat Auburn in overtime to take the Outback Bowl, 34-31.

Former Packer great in Rose Parade	News	1/2/2015	12p,5p	1:30	The name of the man who suffered a "catastrophic medical event" while driving yesterday morning

has been identified by the Marathon County Sheriff's Department as 66-year-old Gerald Ceresero of Sharon in Portage County. His wife and granddaughter, also in the vehicle when it left the road, were unhurt.

Ceresero was pronounced dead at the scene and the exact cause is still unknown.

A northeast Wisconsin woman and a former Green Bay Packers' star raised awareness of organ donations, by riding on a float in yesterday's Tournament of Roses Parade. Jackie Pische of Gillett (jill'-ett) and 1970's Green Bay running back John Brockington -- both organ-or-tissue recipients -- were among 30 people who rode on the "Donate Life" float in Pasadena. Brockington's wife Diane was among a dozen who walked with the float.

Pische is the mother of Joshua Richards, who was shot-and-killed in a shooting in Appleton in December of 2013. Richards was an organ-and-tissue donor.

Several people, including his mother, have received those. Brockington met long-time Packer fan Diane Scott when he moved to San Diego after his playing days. Diane offered to give Brockington a kidney in late 2001 -- and it still works perfectly 14 years later. When he returned to health, Brockington and Scott married. Today, they run the John Brockington Foundation to raise awareness of organ and tissue donations, while raising funds for those on dialysis who wait for transplants. Brockington became the first running back in N-F-L history to rush for a-thousand yards in

					each of his first three seasons.
Oneida Co. looking into snowmobile accidents	News	1/5/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	The Oneida County Sheriff's department is looking into a couple snowmobile accidents over the weekend. Saturday afternoon in Sugar Camp, a woman was injured when the machine she was on rolled over her. She was taken to Howard Young Medical Center with non life threatening injuries. Several hours later a snowmobile was hit by a car on Black Lake Road north of Rhinelander. No one was injured but the driver of the car was cited for being intoxicated. Authorities are still looking into what caused the death of an Oshkosh woman, found naked outside the Townhouse Store in downtown Presque Isle Friday morning. Corrine

Gerster's body was discovered about 8:45. The Vilas County Sheriff's office stated there'd been no signs of wolf activity to dispel rumors the woman was attacked.

Bitter temperatures and even colder windchills will be around most of the week and there are warming centers available should people need them. Word from the Oneida and Vilas County Emergency Management and Public Health departments have these locations open 24/7...in Rhinelander at the Trig's Riverwalk Centre Mall and WalMart Supercenter. In the Lakeland area, the Trig's Mall, entrance of the Howard Young Medical Center and WalMart. In Eagle River the Trig's mezzanine and entrance of Eagle River Memorial Hospital. The Tribal Natural

					<p>Resources Building is available in Lac du Flambeau.</p> <p>And in sports, for the first time since the famous Ice Bowl game of 1967, the Dallas Cowboys return to Lambeau Field to take on the Packers in the NFC Divisional Playoff Round. They beat Detroit yesterday 24-20.</p>
Bitter cold snap to start the new year	News	1/5/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>The first full week of 2015 is starting just like last year -- with a bitter cold snap. This time, we're more ready to deal with it, on several fronts. A year ago today, the Green Bay Packers lost to San Francisco in a home playoff game where the wind-chill dropped minus-20. The next morning, wind-chills plunged to 55-below in far northern Wisconsin -- and the bitter cold and snow stayed well into April. Propane fuel skyrocketed</p>

to over five-dollars a gallon, causing a number of rural homeowners to lose pre-arranged fuel contracts. State officials and the industry shored up the supply system to make sure folks are not caught short this time. Schools were closed for several days, prompting concerns that make-up days would go into late June. The governor and Legislature ended the 180-day classroom requirement, while keeping the same numbers of hours. Rural schools had long sought the change, as fewer and longer days save on fuel costs for their longer bus routes. Many places in northern and central Wisconsin asked residents to keep streams of water flowing 24-7 so their pipes don't break. That's happening again in

					Rhinelander. We can't control the weather of course, but we do expect bitter cold at least through this week.
Cold snap hits the area	News	1/6/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	The Green Bay Packers went 8-and-0 at home in the regular season, while the Dallas Cowboys went 8-and-0 on the road. One of those streaks will end on Sunday, when the two teams meet at Lambeau Field for the right to play in the N-F-C Championship Game a week hence.

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Medford man to stand trial for shots fired	News	1/6/15	12n.5p	1:30	Opponents of a new crude oil pipeline from North Dakota to Wisconsin say the oil should be left where it is -- and instead, we should create renewable sources to fuel our vehicles. That was the newest argument
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raised yesterday at a public hearing in Saint Paul Minnesota, where about equal numbers of people registered for-and-against the proposed Sandpiper line. It's a two-point-six billion dollar project that would carry 225-thousand barrels of oil each day from the Bakken oil fields to Enbridge Energy's terminal in Superior. A judge is hearing the testimony, and will review it before making a final recommendation by mid April.

A 20-year-old Medford man will stand trial for firing shots near a high school football game that was stopped last fall. Harrison Davis had a preliminary hearing yesterday in Taylor County, and is scheduled to enter pleas February 18th. He's charged with four felonies that include reckless endangerment, and

shooting a gun in a school zone -- plus misdemeanor bail jumping.

The Nicolet Area Technical College presidential search committee meets in closed session tomorrow morning to review applications for the position. Kenneth Urban has been the interim president since July after Elizabeth Burmaster resigned to take a similar position at her hometown school in Frederick, Maryland.

Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Ann Walsh Bradley announced her candidacy today for a third ten-year term. She's addressed supporters this morning at the Marathon County Courthouse in Wausau, where she was a circuit judge before being elected to the Supreme Court in 1995. The Supreme Court race is the only statewide

					contest on the spring ballot.
Sub zero temps will rule today	News	1/7/15	6a,7a,8a,	1:30	<p>Sub zero temperatures and dangerous wind chills are the rule today across the state and the combination has closed schools and some businesses through central and northern Wisconsin. Wind chills to 40-below prompted warnings for most of the day. A thin layer of snow has also created some slick spots on the roads this morning and forecasts are calling for three inches tomorrow.</p> <p>The woman found dead in downtown Presque Isle last Friday died of natural causes. 61-year old Corrine Gerster did have a history of health problems. Vilas County investigators are still waiting for lab results on the exact cause of her death.</p> <p>Voters in the Wausau School District may soon see a referendum and the eventual closing of schools.</p>

The School Board is weighing several options to combat overcrowding and aging buildings. Each one moves students and closes facilities. Depending on which way they go, costs could range from 11 to 37-million dollars. The board meets again tomorrow in hopes of crafting a proposal they could approve next week.

As his second term gets started, Governor Scott Walker plans to keep his current leadership team. Walker announced his cabinet appointments yesterday, a day after he took the oath of office at the state Capitol. The list includes the names of 17 heads of state agencies. While the current agency leadership remains, changes are still possible. Walker has indicated he's

					looking at merging some state agencies, which would likely lead to the elimination of some cabinet positions and top agency staff.
Arctic air moves into the state	News	1/7/15	12p,5p	1:30	A new batch of Arctic air moved into Wisconsin this morning. But the National Weather Service said it arrived later than expected. As a result, wind-chills were a bit warmer this morning than anticipated -- generally in the minus-teens-and-20's in southern Wisconsin, and the minus-20's-and-30's in the north. The majority of Wisconsin's 424 school districts are closed today -- including mid-sized systems like Kenosha, Janesville, Beloit, Eau Claire, La Crosse, and Wausau. The Arctic air is supposed to stay in place through Friday. By Sunday, forecasters say it will be

back in the upper teens and 20's statewide. State attorneys will ask the U.S Supreme Court today to preserve Wisconsin's ban on night-time deer hunting. D-N-R lawyers will ask the justices to throw out a federal appeals court ruling from October. It ordered Madison District Judge Barbara Crabb to reconsider her 1991 decision which barred hunting after dark. The ruling was considered a victory for Chippewa Indians in northern Wisconsin who've been trying for years to be able to harvest deer at night. They filed suit in 2012 to seek a reversal of the night-time hunting ban -- but Crabb said circumstances had not changed significantly since her original order 24 years ago. The federal appellate court disagreed. It

					disputed the state D-N-R's contention that night-time hunting is unsafe. The court noted that Minnesota, Michigan, Oregon, and Washington State all allow tribal hunts at night, and the sport has become much safer in the years since Judge Crabb's original rejection.
Be aware of carbon monoxide poisoning	News	1/8/15	6a,7a,8a,	1:30	With much of the state facing extreme cold temperatures this week, residents are warned to be wary of Carbon Monoxide dangers as they try to keep warm. The cold weather often leaves many people scrambling to heat up their homes and Tod Pritchard with Wisconsin Emergency Management says that, sometimes, they turn to unsafe solutions. There are cases each year of people bringing charcoal or gas grills and propane heaters inside. Those devices can

release dangerous levels of Carbon Monoxide which, if not vented safely, can quickly lead to CO poisoning and even death.

Assembly Republicans are proposing a system where public schools that consistently fail to meet state standards could be converted to independent charter schools. The bill, introduced yesterday at the Capitol, would also remove taxpayer funding from private schools in the state's voucher program, if they fail to meet expectations. The legislation would establish a new accountability system for taxpayer-funded schools in Wisconsin, setting up a method for testing those institutions and assigning a letter grade. It would also set up a 13 member board to oversee the grading

					<p>process. Senate Democrats also introduced their own private voucher school accountability legislation.</p> <p>With the new legislative session just beginning, State Senator Tom Tiffany is holding joint listening sessions across the North later this month. The Hazelhurst Republican will join State Representatives Mary Czaja, Rob Swearingen and Jeff Mursau in eight cities across Vilas, Oneida and Forest counties to hear what the public has to say about legislative issues and the budget.</p>
Schools affected by the bad weather	News	1/8/15	12p,5p	1:30	Hardly any schools in the northern two-thirds of Wisconsin were closed this morning while Wisconsin's largest school district is among three dozen in the south that are closed

today. The Milwaukee Public Schools often stay open when bad weather causes others in the area to close. Today, however, Milwaukee faces a triple-whammy of sub-zero temperatures followed by an approaching snow-storm, and a return of below-zero wind-chills tonight. Schools in Kenosha and Beloit shut down for a second straight day.

Racine was among those joining them. As much as five inches of snow is expected by tomorrow in some spots.

J-C Penney will close two more of its Wisconsin department stores this spring. The Texas-based retailer gave a required layoff notice to state officials, saying it would shut down stores in Oshkosh and Racine in April. Almost 80 people would lose their jobs

at each location. It was a year ago five other stores in the state, including Rhinelander were closed. About 13-hundred paper company employees in central Wisconsin are working for new owners.

The Verso Paper Corporation completed its purchase yesterday of New-Page Holdings -- which includes paper mills in Wisconsin Rapids and Stevens Point, and a research facility in Biron (beer'-un). It took just over a year to finalize the deal. New Page was the largest maker of coated papers in North America.

The Powerball jackpot is now 162-million dollars on Saturday, after nobody won the top prize last night. In Mega Millions, the jackpot stands at 221-million dollars for tomorrow night.

	News	1/9/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Governor Scott Walker says
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Is Governor Walker running for president?

the hiring of an experienced political adviser is not a sign that he has decided to run for president. The governor brought on Rick Wiley last month to serve as a senior adviser, as he weighs a potential presidential bid for 2016. Wiley has worked with the Republican National Committee, Republican Governor's Association, and was also a liaison for the RGA to Walker's campaign during his reelection bid. Walker says that, since the election in November, he has received many inquiries from people around the country who are interested in helping with a potential campaign. Walker says "we wanted someone we could trust who had national experience to figure out if the people who were reaching out to us were

legitimate and how to deal with that." Walker insists he has no set timetable for making a decision on a presidential run.

Forget the icy temperatures between now and Sunday's Green Bay/Dallas game, fans looking for game day tickets need to worry less about the cold and more about getting burned. The Wisconsin Dept of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection warns of ticket scams and advise people to use common sense when searching for tickets. Demand for tickets is huge right now and scammers know it's a great time to make an easy buck, according to officials. Most often the, too good to be true offers are found online and seeking immediate payment with cash, a

					check or debit card. Official ticket outlets are recommended as they screen all their providers.
Wisconsin's attorney general in the news	News	1/9/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>Wisconsin's new attorney general is joining a legal challenge to a local law in Nebraska making it a crime not to lock up guns in a person's home. Republican Brad Schimel says 26 states have signed onto a petition to have the U.S Supreme Court consider throwing out the requirement. He said if the ordinance is upheld, it would create problems for gun owners in other states.</p> <p>A federal appeals court has upheld the measures, which requires guns to either have trigger locks or be placed in locked boxes while at home -- except when a person is directly carrying the weapon.</p> <p>Schimel said yesterday that appellate ruling restricts</p>

freedom for people in their own homes.

Ron Johnson's rapid rise to power in the U-S Senate became official yesterday. The Wisconsin Republican was named the new chairman of the Senate's Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. Later in the day, Johnson introduced a bill to cut off funding for President Obama's executive orders on immigration.

It's not just politicians placing high-profile bets on Sunday's Packer-Cowboy playoff game. The Stevens Point Brewery was contacted by Lakewood Brewing of Garland Texas about a wager. If the Packers win, the Point people get some of Lakewood's craft brews. If the Cowboys pull off the upset, Point will have to

					send some of its beers South. Meanwhile, Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings says he'll give Green Bay Mayor Jim Schmitt some famous Texas barbecue if the Packers win. If Dallas wins, Schmitt says he'll deliver a basket of unspecified "Wisconsin favorites."
A deadly weekend in Vilas Co.	News	1/12/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>A deadly weekend in Vilas County...late Friday the sheriff's office reported a snowmobile accident on the trail off Birch Spring Road near Sayner. 34-year old Jason Ringle of Pewaukee reportedly fell off the machine he was on and was struck from behind by another sled in their group.</p> <p>Yesterday afternoon about 4:30 the dispatch center got a 911 call about a one vehicle accident in St. Germain. Reports indicate the unidentified driver went through the intersection of</p>

Hwys 70 and 155, left the road and hit a tree. The embattled Wausau Center Mall is losing two more stores. Ladies clothing store, Deb and the popular Tea Shop, a novelty store in business more than 40 years are both closing. The city and the development group that runs the mall are still working on plans to revitalize the downtown mall.

The first procedural vote in the U.S. Senate on the Keystone XL oil pipeline is expected today, although the future of the bill authorizing construction of the 1,200 mile oil pipeline through the central section of the country remains unclear. Wisconsin Senator Ron Johnson expects his chamber will eventually approve the bill. However, his fellow Republicans are

					<p>short the votes needed to overcome a veto threat from President Barack Obama. Johnson says it's unfortunate, given the potential benefits the pipeline could have for consumers and the U.S. economy. He says the oil is still going to be extracted and moved somewhere, and a State Department study found Keystone would be the most environmentally friendly way to transport the oil.</p>
Heavy student loans for adults	News	1/12/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>Democrats in Congress say they won't give up trying to help adults with heavy student loan debts. It's been a major cause of Wisconsin Senate Democrat Tammy Baldwin. La Crosse House Democrat Ron Kind says he, too, will re-introduce a bill he has tried to pass before prohibiting the federal government</p>

from snatching up money off the interest collected from student loans, and tie repayment rates to the borrowers' income levels.

He said it would allow students to consolidate loans and re-finance at lower rates -- just like homeowners can do.

Menards is challenging a federal penalty for not reporting an employee's death. Seventy-three year old Gary Henkey died last June. The home improvement retailer said Henkey was working at a distribution center in Eau Claire when he was seen lying on the floor struggling to get up. He died later at a hospital. The U-S Occupational Safety and Health Administration recommended nearly 10-thousand dollars in fines for not reporting the death, plus an unrelated safety

matter. Menards is contesting the citations. Northern Wisconsin never left the deep freeze, thanks to a new cold front that moved in yesterday.

Temperatures behind the front were bitter cold this morning, while it's still relatively balmy in southern Wisconsin. Phillips started at 24-below. It was 19-above at the same time in Kenosha. The mercury approached 30 yesterday in some parts of the south.

It could get back down to 25-below tonight in the north, with a statewide warming trend starting tomorrow.

Paul Ryan will not run for president	News	1/13/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Representative Paul Ryan will not run for president in two years. The republican lawmaker from Wisconsin's first congressional district said in an interview he wants to spend the next two years focusing on how
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he can make a big difference in his new role as chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee. Ryan was Mitt Romney's running mate in 2012 and begins his ninth term in Congress.

Democrats in Madison say Governor Scott Walker is already falling short of promises he made while campaigning for a second term, saying he's talking more about a potential presidential bid than issues facing Wisconsin. He delivers his State of the State address tonight. In a statement reacting to the claims Walker's office said, "Some chose to complain, others choose to lead".

A 26-year old Tomahawk man is charged with possessing a firearm as a felon and disorderly conduct. Mike Selmer was

in Lincoln County Court yesterday following an incident Friday where an argument led to gun fire at his home. His mother called police. A 23-year old woman was also arrested in connection with the incident.

Voters in the Wausau School District will see a referendum on the spring ballot. At their meeting last night the school board approved a \$29-million budget with over half going to build a new elementary school. It includes closing the AC Kiefer Educational Center while creating several new regional sites and adding ten classrooms to existing buildings. Also included is expansion of both Wausau East and West high schools.

People sentenced for	News	1/13/15	12p,5p	1:30	Seven people have been
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distributing pain killers in Lac Du Flambeau

sentenced for illegally distributing painkillers on the Lac du Flambeau Indian reservation. Fifty-four year old Thomas Old Coyote and his 30-year-old son Ryan are the latest to get federal prison time. The two men supplied Oxycodone for Andrew and Charlie Meshigaud, who made numerous trips to Milwaukee to buy over a thousand Oxy pills in 2013. Andrew Meshigaud received the longest prison term last summer, with just over 12-and-a-half years. Charlie was given five years. Three others who distributed painkillers for the Meshigauds had earlier sentences ranging from probation to 40 months in prison. An emergency rule reducing the daily bag limit of lake trout in the Apostle Islands region of Lake

Superior is in effect. The DNR reduced the limit from three to two, one 20-25 inches and over over 35 in effort to protect the species. Lake trout numbers have been falling the last eight years and the state wants to ensure a quality fishery. The recreational and commercial lake trout season runs through the end of September. It's the coldest morning of what's been a very cold January in northern Wisconsin -- but unlike some recent days, folks don't have to deal with brutal wind chills. Still, the actual temperatures are not exactly tropical -- 30-below in Tomahawk, 28-below at Manitowish Waters and Phillips, and minus-29 at Eagle River and Land O'Lakes. Those were all mid-morning readings.

					More clouds are due in tonight -- and it should keep things a bit warmer.
Gov. Walker's state of the state address	News	1/14/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Governor Scott Walker's state of the state address last night was short on policy details but challenged lawmakers. Delivering his fifth address in the assembly chambers Walker, among other things, called for passing a school accountability package that doesn't include common core standards and directed the merger of some state offices. He's expected to provide far more detail – including how to deal with a projected \$2.2 billion deficit – when he delivers his budget address in two weeks, which is what his fellow republicans are waiting for. Northwoods representatives Mary Czaja and Rob Swearingen both noted how positive the address came across and

State Senator Tom Tiffany said he's eager to get going on the agenda. Democrats however quickly pointed to GOP policy failures for Wisconsin's budget deficit, lagging jobs and wage growth and an underfunded educational system. They also were critical on the length of the speech, just over 25 minutes.

Several members of Congress will introduce a bill to take wolves in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan and Wyoming off the endangered list. It's an effort to undo recent court decisions blocking the four states from allowing hunting and trapping of wolves for sport and predator control. U.S. Rep. Reid Ribble of Wisconsin is leading the effort. Co-sponsors include U.S. Rep. Collin Peterson of

					Minnesota. The bill uses a strategy that succeeded in taking wolves in Idaho and Montana off the endangered list after court challenges by environmentalists blocked those efforts. Congress took matters into its own hands in 2011 and lifted the federal protections in those two states.
Feedback from Gov. Walker's speech last night	News	1/14/15	12n,5p	1:30	A state labor leader said the governor sent a strong message last night, by refusing to mention right-to-work in his annual State-of-the-State address. Phil Neuenfeldt, head of the state A-F-L C-I-O, said Republican Scott Walker "made clear by his silence that right-to-work legislation is not, and should not be a priority." Some Republicans are pushing for a right-to-work law in which employers could not require workers to join unions or pay

union dues. Supporters say it would give employees more freedom in the workplace, while opponents say it would drive down wages.

Ethanol producers are challenging the need for another federal study of E-15 gasoline. House Republican Jim Sensenbrenner of Menomonee Falls re-introduced a bill ordering the E-P-A to take a fresh look at the fuel which has 15-percent ethanol and 85-percent gasoline.

Sensenbrenner has long argued that E-15 harms vehicles.

Wisconsin's annual Frozen Road Law is now in place statewide. It allows trucks to exceed normal weight limits if they're carrying forest products and road salt-or-sand on most numbered state highways.

					<p>The law has been rolled out from north-to-south over the past few weeks. It took effect at midnight in the D-O-T's final two zones in southern Wisconsin.</p> <p>The Mega Millions' jackpot is up to 270-million dollars for Friday night. Nobody won the top prize last night, and nobody from Wisconsin won the million-dollar second prize. In Powerball, the jackpot is 176-million dollars for tonight's drawing.</p>
Five people in Rhinelander arrested as part of a drug investigation	News	1/15/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>Five people were arrested yesterday in Rhinelander as part of an ongoing drug investigation. Search warrants turned up the manufacture, use and delivery of methamphetamines. The identities of those facing charges have not been released.</p> <p>Two people charged in a heroin bust in Rothschild earlier this month are still in</p>

jail and have pleaded not guilty. 36-year old Christie Pergolski of Schofield entered the plea yesterday and waived her right to a preliminary hearing. 32-year old Bryan Alloway of Rothschild also waived his right. Two others were arrested in the case where the drug was allegedly sold out of a Rothschild motel, where the pair had been registered since November second. Both are in Marathon County court again next week.

The US Bank branch in Weston was robbed Tuesday and Everest Metro police have received dozens of tips regarding the suspect. A photo of the man, bundled up from the cold and wearing sunglasses has been circulating online. He gave a teller a note before fleeing with an undisclosed

					amount of cash. No arrests have been made yet. He reportedly got away on foot before officials arrived. The last time gas prices in the state were below \$2 a gallon was March of 2009. The statewide average for a gallon of regular unleaded this morning is \$1.99, down more than 50-cents from last month and \$1.27 from the same time a year ago. Triple-A says the continued drop is due to the falling oil prices, abundant supplies and low demand.
More details on the drug bust in Rhinelander	News	1/15/15	12p,5p	1:30	More details are coming from authorities following a drug bust in Rhinelander yesterday resulting in five arrests. Several law enforcement agencies executed search warrants in the city yesterday morning and later in the day at a storage unit in Minocqua. The identities of

those involved are not being released but they will appear in court tomorrow. Wisconsin's best public schools would be punished under the state Assembly's version of a school accountability bill. That's what Pewaukee Superintendent JoAnne (stern-kee) indicated yesterday at a public hearing on the package. The bill calls for the state's lowest-performing schools to become independent charter schools, in the hopes of being managed better. But Sternke told the Assembly's Education Committee it would reduce the available state funding for other public schools -- including those that exceed expectations like hers. The chief sponsor of the Assembly bill announced some revisions yesterday -- including the elimination of

a special board to grade schools and levy sanctions. However, the package still has a lot of differences with one proposed in the Senate.

Nobody won the Powerball jackpot last night, so it goes up to 194-million dollars for the next drawing on Saturday night. In Mega Millions, the top prize is 270-million dollars for tomorrow night.

In sports, back up quarterback Matt Flynn is taking most of the snaps at practice but Packers coach Mike McCarthy says Aaron Rodgers will be ready to go when his team takes on Seattle for the NFC Championship game Sunday.

Forest Co. law officials help with drug bust	News	1/16/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Investigators with the Forest County Sheriff's Department, working with police in Two Rivers and the Manitowoc County Metro
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Drug Unit busted a drug operation. 50-year old Kerry Nimmer of Two Rivers was arrested and charged with multiple felonies. Undercover officers on at least two occasions purchased prescription drugs including morphine, Oxycodone and cocaine. She worked as a home health care coordinators and an advocate for disability. Officials say more arrests are likely in the case. School referendums will be a common sight again this year as administrators fight a broken system to keep buildings open and lesson plans running. Annual reductions in state aid, especially to rural school districts is a big part it. Rhinelander is already in the planning stages for this fall as the district is coming up on the end of a three year referendum passed in

					February of 2013. Wausau is proposing closing a building, consolidating classes and high school renovations and will put it to voters this spring. Also in April, the White Lake district will try for a third time in order to keep things running. Administrators there say there's nothing left to cut and they'll be out of money in two years. Governor Scott Walker says the Republican Party needs to take a different approach next year. The statement in reaction to Mitt Romney possibly running for president again. Walker said while Romney is a good man, it's pretty hard to make an argument about going forward when you're arguing about people and ideas from the past.
Medford teacher being investigated	News	1/16/15	12p,5p	1:30	A long-time teacher and basketball coach at

Medford High School is being investigated, but officials are not saying why. Superintendent Pat Sullivan says Ron Lien will not be on the bench tonight when the Medford boys play Antigo. The school district is withholding details while the investigation continues. Medford Police Chief Ken Coyer says his investigation could be jeopardized if too much gets out now. Coyer said it could take months to get everything sorted out -- and he cannot say whether students may have been affected by whatever happened. Lien has taught business education at Medford High for three decades.

A man's body was found, hours after his home started on fire in Shawano County. The blaze was reported just after 6:10 yesterday morning in the town of

Green Valley, south of Gillett. Fire-fighters said the home was engulfed in flames when they arrived.

Once crews put out the blaze, they found the homeowner's body in the wreckage late yesterday afternoon. His name was not immediately released. The cause of the fire was not immediately known. The state Fire Marshal is helping local officials investigate.

Governor Scott Walker says voters are annoyed with the federal government -- and state leaders like him will be the ones to solve the nation's problems. Walker spoke to national G-O-P leaders in San Diego last night, at the winter meetings of the Republican National Committee. The governor said 2016 will be a "unique opportunity to find a new, fresh leader" from outside Washington who

					can provide a sharp contrast to Hillary Clinton, the expected Democratic presidential nominee.
Snowmobile – car accident	News	1/19/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>A snowmobiler was injured after colliding with a car yesterday afternoon. The Oneida County Sheriff's office reported the accident shortly before 1:30 on Hwy 8 in the town of Pelican. The snowmobiler was cited for failure to stop at a marked intersection with a driveway and was struck by the car. Another crash, this one in Waupaca County yesterday killed the 26-year old driver. The sheriff's department there reported the accident near Manawa where the driver was thrown from his machine when it struck a downed tree.</p> <p>Lincoln County deputies arrested a 21-year old North Dakota man in custody on</p>

drug charges. They received a report of a vehicle on Hwy 51 without taillights just before six Saturday morning. Stopping the vehicle deputies noticed he had marijuana residue all over his clothing and a search discovered more pot. He was charged with possession and released after posting a cash bond.

Wisconsin will host a national debate ten months from now, featuring the Republicans who are running for president at the time. The Republican National Committee [announced locations](#) and general time frames for nine sanctioned GOP debates for the 2016 presidential contest. The Wisconsin event will be held in November, but the date and location have not yet

					<p>been announced yet.</p> <p>After leading the entire game, the Packers shot at the Super Bowl went down in overtime to Seattle yesterday 28-22 and Cardell Potter of Camp Douglas, WI captured the 2015 Amsoil World Championship Snowmobile Derby in Eagle River.</p>
Snowmobile accidents in the area	News	1/19/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>Another snowmobile accident reported by the Oneida County sheriff's department, this one last week in Newbold on a trail near Hwy 70. A caller found a snowmobiler lying in the middle of the trail and his machine was in the trees. Jessie Wiesendanger was taken to Howard Young Medical Center and later transferred to St. Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield with unknown injuries. He'll be cited for operating while intoxicated.</p>

Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker is being warned by social conservatives in Iowa about approving a new casino proposed for construction in Kenosha. Walker has to decide by February 19<sup>th</sup> whether to clear the way for the 800-million dollar project backed by the Menominee Tribe and Hard Rock International. Gambling opponents don't want the Republican state leader to forget Iowa's first-in-the-nation caucuses to select presidential nominees. Iowa is especially important for Walker whose said he won't let his potential campaign for president influence his casino decision. Democrats in the Wisconsin Legislature are hoping to ban Palcohol before it ever makes it to store shelves in this state. Eight other states

					have banned the sale of what is more commonly called powdered alcohol. Democratic Senator Tim Carpenter says the potential for abuse outweighs the need for the product, as people could inhale the powder for an instant high. The Tavern League of Wisconsin is supportive of Carpenter's effort. The one-ounce powder packets can be mixed with water to make a shot of vodka, rum, or one of four different cocktails.
Antigo man arrested for bank robbery in Marathon Co.	News	1/20/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Two Antigo men were arrested in connection with a bank robbery in Weston last week. 29-year old Kevin Calhoun and 21-year old Andrew Gibney are both in the Marathon County jail awaiting charges after the pair allegedly robbed the US Bank branch last Tuesday. They were arrested at a

Rothschild hotel shortly after the robbery.

A nearly 12 year old murder case in Rhinelander is headed to court as authorities charge two people in the death of Kenneth Wells. The 45-year old Wells was last seen at a downtown bar and reported missing June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2003. His body was found in the Wisconsin River behind the River Walk Centre several days later. 42-year old James Jones, also known as James Thomas, of New Richmond and 33-year old Latoya Wolf of Tomahawk are both charged with first degree intentional homicide. She is currently in custody while an arrest warrant is out for Jones. A third individual is linked to the case as well.

Rhinelander joins Madison and Milwaukee with a

worker's rights center. The new Northern Wisconsin Center for Working People opened yesterday in the downtown ArtStart building. President Jackie Cody says workers need advocates and access to information and will provide free resources to navigate on-the-job issues like wage claims or workman's comp among others. The new center is open by appointment on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Microbeads, those tiny exfoliants in your facial scrub or toothpaste could be a thing of past. Two Wisconsin lawmakers want to ban the plastic ingredient because it's polluting state waters.

Snowmobile crashes under investigation	News	1/20/15	12p,5p	1:30	A pair of deadly snowmobile crashes are still under investigation in
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central and northeast Wisconsin. Both happened on Sunday night.

Waupaca County sheriff's deputies said a 26-year-old man was killed, after his snowmobile collided with a fallen tree at the Manawa (man'-uh-wuh) Mill Pond. In Oconto County, officials said a 34-year-old Appleton crashed his snowmobile into a shoreline at Chute Pond in the town of Mountain.

Investigators said high speed appeared to be a factor, and toxicology test results are pending. Names of both victims were not immediately released. The state D-N-R says the victims are the fifth-and-sixth on Wisconsin snowmobile trails so far this winter.

Wisconsin Republicans are grumbling about one of the major items President Obama will lay out in his State-of-the-Union address

tonight. The White House says the Democrat Obama will propose a series of tax hikes on the wealthy to give tax breaks to middle income families. They include a 500-dollar credit for families in which both spouses work -- and expanding a child care tax credit to a maximum of three-thousand dollars for kids under five. Senate Republican Ron Johnson of Wisconsin says the chances of getting the measures through the G-O-P Congress are "virtually zero." Johnson said taxing one group to help another is a "zero-sum gain that accomplishes nothing." Senate Democrat Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin said Obama should be applauded for drafting a plan which she says would make "those at the top pay their fair share, so we can

					cut taxes for the middle class and strengthen their economic security."
Reaction to the presidents state of the union address	News	1/21/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>Reaction to last night's State of the Union address by Wisconsin lawmakers was pretty much along party lines. Republican US Senator Ron Johnson expressed disappointment saying President Obama's policies divide the country. Democratic Senator Tammy Baldwin echoed the theme of the speech in that both parties need to work on continued progress instead of partisan politics.</p> <p>Latoya Wolf faces first degree intentional homicide charges. The 33-year old Tomahawk woman was implicated in the 2003 death of Kenneth Wells of Rhinelander. He was last seen June 24<sup>th</sup> at a downtown bar and was reported missing. His body was found in the Wisconsin</p>

River several days later. Wolf was in Oneida county court yesterday and is held on \$100,000 cash bond. Online court records Monday showed similar charges pending against a New Richmond man, 42-year old James Jones but they were dismissed before his initial appearance. Rhinelander police say they are interviewing another person allegedly involved. The Minocqua man found on a snowmobile trail last Wednesday and his machine in the trees has died. 45-year old Jesse Wiesendanger died at St. Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield, Monday. The accident happened on a trail near Hwy 70 in Newbold. A popular winter event has moved to a new venue. USA Hockey announced the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the

					Labatt Blue/USA Hockey Pond hockey national championships, slated for the first weekend in February are now at the Eagle River Derby track. Ice on the original location on Dollar Lake was deemed unsafe. More than 2300 players take part in the annual tournament.
Wisconsin senator in a battle over Obama Care	News	1/21/15	12p,5p	1:30	The federal appeals court in Chicago is scheduled to hear arguments today on U.S Senator Ron Johnson's effort to revive his lawsuit against Obama-care. The Wisconsin Republican challenged a requirement that members of Congress and their official staffers use the federal purchasing exchanges for their coverage. Johnson contends that the law treats congressional workers differently, because those not considered "official" staffers still get their previous

federal benefits. He also said it makes lawmakers look bad, because government staffers get fully-funded coverage that rest of us don't get.

Johnson is appealing District Judge William Griesbach's (grees-bock's) earlier ruling that the lawsuit is not valid because the senator did not have the legal standing to file it.

The Menominee Indian tribe signed an amended gaming agreement with the state last night, calling it a "clear path" for Governor Scott Walker to approve its new Kenosha casino. The 25-year deal would give the state seven-and-a-half percent of the tribe's net winnings from gamblers.

The tribe says its total payment would be an unprecedented one-billion dollars over the life of the compact. The Menominee

					also promised to cover reductions in profits to the Potawatomi and Ho-Chunk casinos as the result of the new Hard Rock Casino and resort. However, state Administration Secretary Mike Huebsch (hibsh) says it's not that easy. He notes the U-S Bureau of Indian Affairs must still approve the new compact. Walker has until February 19th to decide on the Kenosha casino.
Wisconsin lawmakers battling	News	1/22/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Democrats in the Wisconsin Senate unveil their legislative priorities, saying Republicans aren't focusing on what matters to Wisconsinites. Senate Democratic Leader Jennifer Shilling promotes their "Wisconsin Families First" plan, which she says focuses on growing the state economy by investing in families, businesses, and public infrastructure. She

slams Governor Scott Walker's presidential aspirations for being "a distraction," as Wisconsin deals with a \$2.2 billion budget. Democrats plan to introduce additional proposals over the coming days and weeks, including a push for Medicaid expansion, minimum wage, free college, and student loan re-financing. Though, Republicans have the majority in the statehouse and have previously rejected those ideas. A spokeswoman for Republican Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald says yesterday's announcement "was little more than a rehashing of the same tired ideas that the voters overwhelmingly rejected in November."

Mike McCarthy's season ending press conference

was cancelled and the [Green Bay Packers](#) public relations staff said it was a personal matter involving the coaching staff. It turns out, the personal matter was for McCarthy himself, whose younger brother, Joe McCarthy III, had died while playing racquetball at a local gym. Mike McCarthy flew immediately to Pittsburgh to be with his family.

One person was hurt after being trapped in her vehicle following a crash last night near the 51 exit of Hwy 29. The Wausau fire department had to remove her from the car after she reportedly swerved into another. The name of the 37-woman hasn't been released.

Wausau area woman	News	1/22/15	12p,5p	1:30	A Wausau area woman has
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sentenced to jail

been sentenced to nine months in jail for vandalism during a protest at the proposed Gogebic Taconite iron ore mine. Twenty-seven year old Katie Kloth of Weston, was convicted of felony robbery and misdemeanor criminal damage. Two other misdemeanors were dropped in a plea deal. The protesters disrupted mining workers who were drilling exploratory holes at the mining site in Iron County in 2013. State Senator Tom Tiffany later proposed a bill to cut off public access to lands at the mining site, to avoid a repeat of the vandalism. However, he accepted a compromise after learning people's families who've hunted on the land for generations could no longer do so. State Superintendent Tony

Evers told educators "more divisive mandates" may be on the way for public schools. He made the comment at an annual education convention in Milwaukee. As Evers put it, "Backroom discussions lead me to believe that more divisive mandates, along with constrained revenue, are on the way." He did not elaborate, but spokesman Tom McCarthy said the superintendent was referring to the school accountability bill -- different versions of which are being guided through both houses by majority Republicans.

The governor's council on financial literacy announced its annual awards and Rhinelander's Partners in Education program is among the 17 statewide winners. The recognition notes the

					organization is making a difference by increasing the personal financial knowledge and skills of Wisconsinites of all ages. Melissa Meyer of DC Everest Middle School in Schofield was cited in the individual category.
Authorities in Marathon Co. look for man with assault rifle	News	1/23/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>Authorities in Marathon County say the public is not in danger as they look for a man with a possible assault rifle. Investigators searched a block on Ross Ave. in Schofield early Friday morning after an incident in Wausau where man showed a large rifle, according to an officer with the Everest Metro Police Department. Authorities cleared the area shortly before 2 a.m. without taking anyone into custody.</p> <p>Governor Scott Walker confirmed yesterday that his proposed new state budget would require people to pass drug tests before they can get unemployment, food stamps, and other public benefits. For the first time, the Republican</p>

Walker said he would support free treatment and job training to those failing the drug tests. The proposed drug tests for public benefits have faced legal challenges elsewhere. Last month, a federal appeals court said mandatory drug tests for welfare benefits in Florida were unconstitutional.

Wisconsin's unemployment rate held steady last month at five-point-two percent. State labor officials announced that statistic and others this afternoon. The state's seasonally-adjusted jobless rate is more than a full-percent less than a year ago.

Unemployment continues to be at its lowest since the fall of 2008 when the Great Recession began in earnest.

Another effort will be made to toughen Wisconsin's drunk driving laws in the new legislative session. Assembly Republican Jim Ott of Mequon has tried for several years to require mandatory sentences, make three-and-four-time O-W-I felonies instead of misdemeanors, let authorities

					seize offenders' vehicles, and require those getting first-time O-W-I citations to appear in court In the last session, only one of Ott's proposals passed -- mandatory prison sentences for drunk drivers who cause injuries, and prison time for those caught drunk at least seven times.
Wisconsin voters to vote on demotion of a state chief justice	News	1/23/15	12p,5p	1:30	Wisconsin voters will decide April 7th whether to make Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson face a possible demotion on the State Supreme Court. With all Democrats voting no, state Assembly Republicans voted 62-to-34 yesterday for a constitutional amendment that changes the way the chief justice is chosen. It would let the court's seven members choose their own chief justice each session, instead of giving it to the person who's served the longest. Assembly Republican Rob Hutton of Brookfield says only a handful of states use seniority to determine their chief justice -- and it's a more democratic approach for running the state's highest court.

Governor Scott Walker says he will not try to go against the federal government with his plan to make public benefit applicants pass drug tests.

The Republican Walker said yesterday that if lawmakers approve the requirement in the next state budget, he'll ask the White House for a waiver of federal rules that ban drug tests for federally-funded food stamp and Medicaid benefits. Almost a dozen other states passed requirements for drug tests. But a federal appeals court struck down Florida's testing for welfare recipients, and Georgia approved drug tests for food stamp recipients -- but the state scrapped the idea after the U-S-D-A said its rules barred such tests.

Wisconsin educators are speaking out against a proposal to let people with "real-life experience" get state teaching licenses. Governor Walker proposed the measure yesterday, as part of a package in the next state budget that improves worker training. John Forester of the School Administrators' Alliance

					says it requires no training in how to teach effectively. The state's largest teachers' union is also against the idea.
Gov. Walker explains why he voted a casino down	News	1/26/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Governor Scott Walker says the decision to reject the Menominee Tribe's proposed Kenosha casino was purely about the potential financial impact of the project, not because of political pressure. He rejected the \$800 million development, citing concerns the state could have to pay the Forest County Potawatomi up to \$100 million if it moved forward. The tribe argues the state would owe money because of a gaming compact negotiated under then-Governor Jim Doyle. The Menominee Tribe signed their own compact this week that would have seen them cover those losses, but Walker says the potential for lawsuits did

little to resolve concerns the state could still be on the hook.

Over the weekend Walker won the crowd at the Iowa Freedom Summit, one of the most high-profile forays to date into a possible run for president in 2016

A Boulder Junction home was destroyed by fire Friday. The Vilas County Sheriff's office got the 911 call around 2:00 at the home on Rustic Colony Lane. The owner made the call when he returned home to discover the building engulfed in flames. No one was injured and the house is a total loss. The cause is still undetermined. Another fire, this one destroying a building at the Wisconsin Lions Camp in Rosholt yesterday afternoon. The fire broke out in a storage shed just

					after 2:00 and is a total loss. Inside the shed were a tractor and a van, both destroyed by the flames. The runner up in last week's World Championship in Eagle River, Malcolm Chartier, of Marine City, Michigan, won yesterday's Wausau 525 Championship.
Shooting at a tavern in Wausau	News	1/26/15	12p,5p	1:30	Rothschild police and the Marathon County Sheriff's department arrested two people and are investigating a shooting at a tavern Saturday. A 22-year old man was struck in the face by a bullet at PJ's Log Jam around 1:30 Saturday morning. He was treated and released at Aspirus Hospital in Wausau. Wisconsinites heating their homes with propane are paying a little more than two years ago -- but nowhere near the huge spikes from last year at this time. The average price for

residential propane was 1.79-a-gallon as of last week -- down six-cents from December 15th. And thoses prices are a bargain compared to the five-dollars plus people were paying last year at this time. While the Northeastern U-S braces for up to three-feet of snow, Wisconsin is getting a much smaller dose of winter today. Up to two-inches of snow are predicted for parts of western and north central Wisconsin. Forecasters say all of the Badger State might see freezing drizzle and-or light snow into tonight with dropping to sub-zero by the weekend. A Wisconsin Assembly Democrat wants to include electronic cigarettes in the state's public indoor smoking ban. Janesville Representative Debra (coal-stee) is sponsoring the

measure. Republican leaders of both houses say there's no reason to change anything. If her bill doesn't pass, Kolste hopes more communities will consider their own bans. Nobody won the top prize over the weekend and that puts the Powerball jackpot at 261-million dollars for Wednesday night. In Mega Millions, the jackpot is at 25-million dollars for tomorrow night.

Crash of a light plane in Clark Co.	News	1/27/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	The crash of a light plane in Clark County claims a life and injures two others. It occurred yesterday morning near Owen. Killed was 56-year old Martin Siegwart, a pastor in Boon, Michigan. The pilot and another passenger were hospitalized. Investigators say icing problems forced the plane down and the pilot tried to land on a stretch of road but the wing
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clipped a tree and crashed.

Police in Rothschild are looking for anyone who may have been at PJ's Log Jam bar early Saturday morning during a shooting incident. A 22-year old man was struck in the face by the bullet from a gun fired inside the men's restroom that went through a wall before hitting him. He was not seriously hurt. Investigators say the bar was crowded at the time and they're looking into the circumstances that led to a firearm being discharged. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Rothschild department.

Authorities in Langlade County need your help to locate a 14-foot, red, V trailer ice house stolen in the Elcho area earlier this month and a 2012 Polaris Rush Pro R800 snowmobile

					on a Caravan trailer, taken just last week. A new full time position within the Vilas County Sheriff's Department will put a deputy outdoors. Randy Schneider, a 25-year veteran will now patrol area trails and waterways as a Recreational Officer. The county has been working for the position nearly 15 years. Duties include ATV, boat and snowmobile patrols and working with the Forestry Department on timber thefts.
Road rage incident in Wausau	News	1/27/15	12p,5p	1:30	A Wausau man is free on a signature bond, after being charged in a road rage incident. 26-year old Kyle Krahn appeared in Marathon County Circuit Court yesterday facing a felony charge of reckless endangerment, misdemeanor disorderly conduct and two counts of misdemeanor possession of

drug paraphernalia.

Authorities said another driver saw Krahn weaving in his lane on a west side Wausau street last Thursday night -- and when the driver passed by, Krahn's car then tailgated his. Both vehicles stopped on the street and officials said Krahn shot a rifle in the air and allegedly touched the other man's face with it before the suspect drove off.

The University of Wisconsin system would get something it has wanted for years -- more freedom from state rules -- under Governor Scott Walker's next budget. In exchange, the U-W would have its state funding cut by 13-percent over the next two years. As part of the autonomy, the U-W could set its own tuition starting in 2017, with no interference from the Legislature. It

would also get control over setting its salaries, tenure policies, construction projects, procurement contracts, and more. Most of Wisconsin got 1-to-3 inches of new snow yesterday and last night, plus freezing rain which lingered after midnight in southern and eastern areas. The National Weather Service said Lake Tomahawk had the most, with three-and-a-half inches. Three-inches fell near Fond du Lac. Gile in Iron County -- which had over 100-inches in November and December -- picked up two more yesterday. Colder temperatures are expected Friday and into the weekend.

Gov.Walker takes another step in joining the presidential race.	News	1/28/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Governor Scott Walker took another step toward joining the crowded Republican race for the presidency,
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forming a tax-exempt political group to help him boost his possible 2016 bid for the White House. The governor first [told the Washington Post](#) about his new campaign committee “Our American Revival” to help spread the message and underwrite his activities. It’s a phrase Walker’s been using in his recent speeches at national conservative events. This is the first formal step he’s taken. The announcement of the new committee comes after Walker spent much of January ramping up his likely declaration of candidacy, including a well-received appearance in Iowa Saturday.

Refocusing on economic development and business recruitment, Downtown Rhinelander, Incorporated

is changing the way IT'S doing business. Having already cut its staff and hired a recruitment consultant, DRI President Dan Kuzlik said recent strategic planning sessions led to the changes. The organization is partially funded by Rhinelander's Business Improvement District, under scrutiny by some property owners looking to dissolve it.

A fire late last night damaged a sawdust silo at Menzer Lumber, on Main Street in Marathon City. Crews were dispatched around 10:00 to the blaze, called in by a second shift worker at the plant. No one was hurt and there's no damage estimate. The cause may be a malfunctioning part in the silo.  
Marilyn Katke of Merrill struck it rich, redeeming a

					Super Millions scratch ticket yesterday worth a million dollars. She bought it Monday at the Kwik Trip in Merrill. She'll pocket over 670-thousand dollars after taxes.
Campus layoffs and other school budget cuts	News	1/28/15	12p,5p	1:30	U-W officials predict campus lay-offs and fewer student services under Governor Scott Walker's new budget proposals. But they are not proposing that any of the 26 two-and-four-year campuses be closed. The Republican Walker says he's willing to give the university the autonomy it has sought for years, including no limits on tuition increases. But first, they would have to accept a 300-million dollar cut in state funding for two years, along with two more years of tuition freezes. Madison Chancellor Rebecca Blank says the autonomy would not off-set an immediate

15-percent budget cut to the state's largest campus. If it passes, Blank said every sector would face layoffs -- and she would seek an immediate tuition hike for out-of-state students, which make up a quarter of Madison's enrollment.

Meth-amphetamine use is again on the rise in central and northern Wisconsin.

That's what police and public health officials learned at a meeting in Wausau from the regional Pushback Against Drugs Initiative. The rise in meth usage comes after similar increases in heroin and painkiller abuse the past several years.

The state natural resources board approved wildlife and fisheries questions proposed by the DNR for the public to review at the 2015 spring rules hearings. Meeting today, the board

					signed off on the agency's questions including size and bag limits for panfish, changes to inland trout seasons and other regulations. They also addressed the bear season quotas, expanding waterfowl hunting areas among others. Every county in the state conducts the hearings on the evening of April 13 <sup>th</sup> .
Wausau lawyer has his license revoked	News	1/29/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	November third is the trial date for 18-year old Austin Ginter of Laona, charged with first degree reckless homicide in a crash last July that killed a 15-year old passenger and seriously injured another teen. The accident happened on Old 8 Road near Crandon. Investigators say the vehicle was traveling near 100 miles and hour when it left the road, crashing into the trees. A Wausau lawyer had his

license revoked. 64-year old Ryan Lister was charged with numerous counts of misconduct and the state supreme court ruled he can no longer practice law in Wisconsin. The court also ordered him to pay restitution and court costs to cover his multiple ethics violations. Another legal action, this time the Securities and Exchange Commission, took action against 69-year old James Sarkauskas of Rhinelander. The former investment advisor was accused of defrauding clients out of hundreds of thousands of dollars. The investigation began in 2008 with examiners notifying him of potential violations of federal law. Sarkauskas failed to change the way certain fees were charged to clients was ordered to pay over \$450-thousand in

					<p>restitution and penalties. His company, Sarkauskas and Associates in downtown Rhinelander has since been sold. Concerns about having enough safe ice prompted organizers of next weekend's Cruiserfest in Minocqua to move the popular event. It's still on Lake Minocqua, just several hundred yards to the North at Torpy Park, downtown. Vendors will now be on land at the park with only minor changes being made to the activities on the ice.</p>
Fish experts looking for other ways to limit the walleye harvest	News	1/29/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>Fish experts will look for other ways to limit the walleye harvest for sport anglers in northern Wisconsin, besides the unpopular cuts in daily bag limits. Each year, the D-N-R reduces daily bag limits on dozens of lakes where Chippewa Indians exercise their centuries-old treaty</p>

rights to spear fish off their reservations before the sport season begins. For the second year in a row, the Natural Resources Board approved a "scope statement" in which the D-N-R could eventually consider size limits or season-wide restrictions on walleye. Sectional fisheries' management chief Steve Hewett says the D-N-R has gained enough information over 20 years of monitoring to develop better rules for certain lakes.

The Berlin School District in east central Wisconsin will keep its Indian mascot and nickname. The School Board voted to calling its teams the Berlin Indians, after 92-percent of 13-hundred people in a community survey favored keeping the moniker. One resident said the name honors a tribe that no

					<p>longer exists. An opponent said the mascot exploits Native American culture, and teaches kids it's okay to stereotype.</p> <p>A utility and two railroads have settled a lawsuit over contamination near Chequamegon Bay in Ashland. X-cel Energy said the Soo Line and Wisconsin Central railroads have agreed to pay the utility 10-and-a-half million dollars to help clean up pollution partially caused by a former gas plant that operated along the bay from the late 1800's through the 1940's. X-cel said the settlement covers only a part of the total clean-up costs, which are estimated at 100-million dollars.</p>
Northwoods contingent supports Gov. Walker's school plan	News	1/30/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	The Assembly contingent from the Northwoods all came out in support of Governor Scott Walker's budget proposals to help

rural schools. Republican Rob Swearingen of Rhinelander, former chair of the Task Force on Rural Schools said he was encouraged a number of recommendations he made were included, such as extending high speed internet access and increased funding for transportation and sparsity aid. One item getting criticism however is allowing flexibility in teacher licensing. Crivitz Republican Jeff Mursau said districts will benefit significantly while Representative Mary Czaja, said many rural issues got good news. The Irma Republican said the Governor listened and reacted to the Task Force report. The legislature will get a more detailed look at the proposals and overall budget in the coming

weeks.

An official with the Menominee Indian Tribe says they are still considering their next move, following Governor Walker's decision to reject their Kenosha casino proposal. The tribe is joining with southeastern Wisconsin lawmakers in calling on the governor to reconsider the decision, which they argue there's still time to do before a February 19th Bureau of Indian Affairs deadline. Legal action is one alternative. Tribal leaders stress the federal government has the final word.

The annual St. Germain Radar Run opens today at noon with a number of activities on the west bay of Little St. Germain lake. Tomorrow's bikini run features more than 30

					women who've raised more than \$30,000 for the Pink Ribbon Riders cancer fund and local rescue services. Fun runs, drag racing and more begins at ten tomorrow.
Bad flu season in the state gets worse	News	1/30/15	12p,5p	1:30	A bad flu season keeps getting worse in Wisconsin. State Health Services officials now say three more children have died from flu complications. That brings the total number of pediatric deaths to five -- the second-highest total in the U-S. Texas is the only state with more child flu deaths this season, with seven. Nationally, 56 children have died from flu complications this winter. Officials say this year's flu vaccine has not been a good match for the predominant H-3-N-2 flu strain -- but officials still urge people to be vaccinated, saying some protection is

better than none. A Minnesota appeals court could decide whether Jeffrey Trevino deserves a new trial. He's the Saint Paul man convicted of killing his wife, Kira Steger from the Wausau area.

Yesterday, Trevino's lawyer argued his jury did not get proper instructions on its deliberations. He's also seeking a shorter sentence, after Judge Leonardo Castro ordered Trevino to spend 27-and-a-half years in prison -- twice the maximum under Minnesota's sentencing guidelines.

Wisconsin's two U-S senators remain split on allowing the Keystone X-L oil pipeline, after the Senate approved it yesterday 62-to-36.

Republican Ron Johnson voted with the majority, saying the pipeline would deliver new sources of

				domestic oil which have resulted in lower energy prices and an improved economy. Wisconsin Democrat Tammy Baldwin said the oil that's delivered by the Keystone pipeline could end up in other countries, thus causing gas prices to rise in the Midwest. She also repeated that the government has no business approving individual pipelines.
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### Quarterly Issues/Programs List

**Station:** Wobt  
**Quarter:** 1<sup>st</sup> feb.  
**Year:** 2015

ISSUE DESCRIPTION	PROGRAM SEGMENT	DATE	TIME	DURATION	DESCRIPTION OF SEGMENT
Snowmobile went through ice in Minocqua	News	2/2/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	A 13-year old boy was rescued after his snowmobile went through the ice in Minocqua. Police reported the youngster dropped the machine in the channel between lakes

Kawaguesaga and Minocqua shortly after 4 yesterday afternoon. He was found holding onto the ice until officials could get to him. He was alert and answering questions and taken to Howard Young Medical Center. No word on his condition this morning. Another accident yesterday afternoon around 2:00 was reported in Nokomis area where one woman was reportedly injured. No other information is available. The Bloomberg Politics/Des Moines Register Iowa Poll released over the weekend put Governor Scott Walker ahead of all other potential Republican presidential candidates, at 15 percent. That's up from just 4 percent in the same poll taken back in October. In the survey of 402 likely Republican caucus

attendees, Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky took a close second, at 14 percent. Former Massachusetts Governor and 2012 Republican Party nominee Mitt Romney came in third, at 13 percent but announced last week he won't seek the nomination.

Gas prices are expected to continue inching up. Not many stations in the North got below \$2 a gallon but many were within a penny. The average now is \$2.04 for regular unleaded. And despite not making the Super Bowl it was a big weekend for Packer fans as Aaron Rodgers was named league MVP for the second time and former GM Ron Wolf was elected to the Pro Football hall of fame. And new England beat seattle 28-24.

	News	2/2/15	12p,5p	1:30	The mining project
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Mining project slowed down

Wisconsin Republicans agreed to speed up two years ago has slowed to a crawl. Gogebic Taconite was expected to file a formal application this spring for its proposed iron ore mine near Mellen in Ashland and Iron counties. However, that application probably won't be ready until 2016 -- because the firm still needs to study water quality at the site, as part of an environmental impact statement. Iron County zoning administrator Tom Bergman officials are concerned the company will pull out completely.

A new poll gives Governor Scott Walker a narrow lead in Iowa over other possible G-O-P presidential hopefuls. But that could change, depending on how -- or if -- Walker takes a stand on ethanol. The Republican Walker has avoided a

stance on updating the Renewable Fuel Standard, a federal requirement for minimum amounts of ethanol in U.S. gasoline.

Almost all fuel now has 10-percent ethanol and there's been a debate on raising it.

Walker said last week he'll probably have to take a stand if he runs for the White House -- but he won't for now. It's a tricky issue in Wisconsin. The state's corn farmers would obviously benefit from a requirement for more corn-based ethanol, while the state's small-engine makers say it would damage their products which run things like lawn-mowers, outboards and snow-blowers.

The Powerball jackpot is the highest in almost a year. It's at 317-million dollars for Wednesday night, after nobody won the top prize

					Saturday. In Mega Millions, the jackpot is 40-million dollars for tomorrow night.
Carbon monoxide leak at a park falls theatre	News	2/3/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>A carbon monoxide leak at a Park Falls movie theater last night sent nearly 20 people to the hospital. The police department reports a call came in about 9:45 of a woman having a seizure at the Park Theater. While treating her another woman fainted, leading officials to clear the building. Testing equipment indicated the source could be a furnace or hot water heater. Everyone was treated and released and the appliances are being examined today.</p> <p>The need for snow in the North is becoming evident on snowmobile trails as pressure increases with events like last week's Radar Runs in St. Germain and this weekend's</p>

Cruiserfest in Minocqua bringing in more traffic. While the cold weather has solidified the base, there's been little to groom to keep trails from getting rough or covering bare spots. Lake ice is also an issue, with a teenager losing his machine in Minocqua over the weekend and Cruiserfest officials moving the event to a different part of the lake. Area clubs stress staying on marked trails for safety. Some snow is forecast for tonight and into the weekend.

Governor Scott Walker formally introduces his two year budget plan tonight, but a group of Democrats have already aired their criticisms and suggestions for what direction the state should be headed. State Representative Chris Taylor of Madison said the general

					outlines of the governor's 2015-'17 budget plan are already cause for concern – because of his ambitions beyond Wisconsin, pointed to Walker's potential presidential bid. The budget will have to contend with a projected revenue shortfall of some \$2.2 billion dollars.
Stabbing incident in Wausau	News	2/3/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>Four people are recovering after a stabbing incident at a nail salon west of Wausau yesterday morning.</p> <p>Marathon County sheriff's officials said a male employee at Best Nails Salon-and-Spa in Rib Mountain stabbed three co-workers and injured himself with a four-inch blade. Lieutenant Bill Millhausen said the man stabbed two other men and a woman who ran to a nearby business for help.</p> <p>Millhausen said two victims</p>

had non-life-threatening injuries, and he was not sure about the third. The suspect was taken into custody at the store. Hampton Products of Shell Lake announced yesterday 30 workers will be permanently laid off this spring. State workforce development officials said the job cuts are expected on April first -- and the agency will provide assistance to those affected. Five salaried positions are being cut, along with two-dozen hourly workers. Hampton makes door hardware, lighting, security systems, and other electronics. Wisconsin gas prices jumped by 12-cents a gallon the past week. According to the Triple-"A," the average price for regular unleaded was 2.09 this morning -- up by almost

three cents from yesterday. The current average is higher than the buck-97 from last Tuesday, but it's still six-cents less than a month ago. Analysts say at least some increase is normal for early February, as refineries conduct their scheduled maintenance to prepare for the busier spring-and-summer driving seasons.

Also, a labor strike threatens to jack up fuel prices. This is the third day of a walk-out by members of the United Steelworkers Union at refineries that produce about ten-percent of the nation's petroleum.

Gov. Walker lays out budget plan	News	2/4/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Governor Scott Walker laid out, sort of, his \$68 billion budget plan last night touching on everything from property tax cuts to drug testing and school funding. Critics quickly
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pointed out there was no mention as to how to pay for any of it. Democrats in Madison were already reacting on Monday. The plan lays the groundwork for lawmakers who now shape the 1600 plus pages into a final form. Local legislators, all Republicans, were unified in their statements in support of Walker and his initiatives. Representative Mary Czaja of Irma said his rural funding priorities would bring needed investment to the North. Rob Swearingen of Rhinelander was encouraged by his emphasis on education and economic development. Senator Tom Tiffany took a non-committal approach saying he looks forward to thoroughly reviewing the budget while making sure the values and priorities of

the Northwoods are represented. The Antigo School District awarded a new five year transportation contract to the Malliette Bus Company. The school board approved the bid of the Antigo company Monday, that could end up saving the district \$150,000 next year. They already provide service to about half the district. Three companies bid for the contract. Plans to open a temporary Famous Dave's restaurant in Hayward have been delayed. The iconic restaurant, noted for its specialty ribs burned to the ground last December. They planned on opening this week until the new building on Round Lake is finished but delays in equipment, high costs, insurance claims and the weather have set them

					back.
Gov. Walker on the road pitching his budget plan	News	2/4/15	12p,5p	1:30	Governor Scott Walker is on the road today highlighting the new two-year state budget he submitted last night. He'll stop in La Crosse, Eau Claire, Stevens Point, and De Pere, where he's expected to hammer home the message he gave lawmakers. The Republican Walker termed his two-year, 68-billion dollar budget package as a path toward "growth and opportunity" -- and "freedom and prosperity" for those who've felt left out in recent years. The budget seeks to wipe out a deficit that's now projected at 928-million dollars -- something Democrats say the G-O-P put on itself by cutting taxes by two-billion dollars over the last four years. The Joint Finance Committee will now spend the next few months re-working the

package before final legislative approval that's expected in June.

A Medford man has been sentenced to eleven years in a federal prison, for burning down his pizza restaurant to cash in on insurance. District Judge Barbara Crabb of Madison also told 36-year-old David Johnson to pay restitution of 155-thousand dollars. He pleaded guilty to arson, for starting a blaze two years ago at his Main Street Pizza and Grill in Medford. The restaurant was destroyed and a neighboring building was damaged. Because of that, Crabb said Johnson's actions intentionally put others at risk.

February is Wisconsin's coldest month -- and we're about to get a shivering reminder of that. The National Weather Service says wind-chill factors

					dropped down to 25-below zero in parts of far northern Wisconsin today and by tomorrow morning, expect air temperatures at 15-below or better.
Fire in the Rhinelander area	News	2/5/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>Pelican and Rhinelander firefighters responded to a mobile home fire about 3:30 yesterday at 329 Woodland Heights Terrace. No one was hurt and the cause is still unknown. The Red Cross is providing emergency housing, food and clothing.</p> <p>Voters in the Rhinelander School District will see a referendum next year. Projecting a budget deficit over 5 and a half million dollars, the plan is to exceed the revenue limits for three years, although an exact amount hasn't been determined. Voters approved a similar measure two years ago. The Operations and Strategic</p>

Planning Committee will continue to work with administrators to finalize plans and inform the public. And autopsy today should determine the cause of death of a 95-year old woman, whose body was found near some railroad tracks in Rothschild yesterday morning. She had been reported missing earlier as investigators believe she wandered off and died of exposure. She has not yet been identified. A two car crash in Marathon County leaves three people dead. The Sheriff's department reported the accident around 5:00 last night on Hwy 13 near Karau Avenue in the Town of Spencer. Two men died at the scene while a woman perished later at the hospital. The southbound lane was closed for several hours. No

					<p>other details are available. Another part of Governor Walker's budget proposal came to light yesterday, turning the DNR board into an advisory panel to the appointed secretary. Supporters say it allows for greater citizen participation in decision making while critics maintain it's a purely political maneuver with no fiscal impact.</p>
Wausau man arrested ins tabbing incident	News	2/5/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>A Wausau area man is jailed under a million-dollar bond on five felony charges connected with a stabbing attack at a nail salon. Thirty-year-old Doan Nguyen (gwen) appeared in Marathon County Circuit Court yesterday for Monday's incident at Best Nails Salon-and-Spa in the town of Rib Mountain. Prosecutors said he stabbed three co-workers and injured himself, after a woman told him to get</p>

back to work cleaning the store instead of playing on a cellphone. Charges include attempted homicide, two counts of aggravated battery, and two counts of reckless endangerment.

Despite what educators say, Governor Scott Walker says Wisconsin public schools should be in "good shape" the next two years.

During a visit to Stevens Point yesterday, the Republican Walker said his proposed state budget would increase transportation aid in those rural districts where buses travel the most. He also confirmed an increase in "sparsity aid," which helps school districts with wide geographic areas pay the higher costs of serving those larger territories. A state official said last week the total increase would be

eight-point-four million dollars. Rural school leaders said it wasn't enough. Under Walker's budget, general school aids would be about the same as the current package.

Rhinelander High Schools Mock Trial team defends its championship next weekend at the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual regional tournament in Wausau. The team broke its own state record by winning its 28<sup>th</sup> consecutive regional title and 17<sup>th</sup> state title last year. The tournament is sponsored by the Wisconsin law foundation and takes place at the Marathon County courthouse.

Names in car crash have been released	News	2/6/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	The names of the people killed in a Marathon County crash Wednesday have been released. 22-year old Erasto Montes of Medford and James and Christine Saxild, both 71 of Bruce
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died in the head on collision on Hwy 13 in Spencer.

An Athens area farm house was destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon. Three departments responded shortly before five to the home on Ivory Road in the town of Johnson. No one in the family of four were hurt and the Red Cross is providing emergency assistance with food and winter clothing. The cause is still undetermined but it's believed to have started in the attached garage from a woodstove.

State Senator Tom Tiffany isn't surprised Gogebic Taconite's plans for a mine in northern Wisconsin have slowed down. The Hazelhurst Republican says given the high costs and a pending environmental impact statement, the company will take its time

and submit it next year. Tiffany worked to change the state's mining regulations in advance of the project and doesn't believe additional work is needed to continue moving it forward.

The annual Labatt Blue/USA Pond Hockey Nationals open today in Eagle River. The event moved this year to the famed Snowmobile Derby Track because of unsafe ice conditions on Dollar Lake. More than 2000 players from 330 teams will compete on 24 rinks built around the track, with many of the games played under the lights for the first time. The tournament runs through Sunday.

And Steve Stricker, Wisconsin's top pro golfer says he's recovering nicely after back surgery and plans to play in the Masters come April.

Gov. Walker say no one will be disciplined	News	2/6/15	12p,5p	1:30	Governor Scott Walker says nobody will be disciplined in the flap over his budget proposal to essentially scrap the U-W's Wisconsin Idea public service mission. The Republican Walker said yesterday that he only wanted to add a component of training workers for Wisconsin's economy -- and he had no desire to scrap the university's 110-year-old guiding principles of research and outreach beyond its 26 campuses. The U-W Madison chancellor says a top medical research candidate pulled out after hearing about the governor's proposed 300-million dollar budget cut to the university system. Rebecca Blank also told the U-W Board of Regents yesterday that an offer for a top job at the School of
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Nursing fell through. She called them "two casualties" of Governor Scott Walker's plan to slash state support for the system by 13-percent over the next two years, in exchange for less oversight from the governor and Legislature.

Blank also warned that current students and faculty may leave for better opportunities.

More of Wisconsin's early income tax filers are discovering that identity thieves beat them to their refunds. The state Revenue Department is reviewing more than 60-thousand personal returns filed last weekend and early this week. The agency has been running an identity protection program, which involves a number of steps to prevent identity fraud before it happens. More thieves around the country

					have been helping themselves to other people's tax refunds by entering false Social Security numbers. When the real people file, they get notices that their returns have already been sent in.
Conover man found near his home	News	2/9/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>A Conover man, missing nearly a week was found near his home Saturday afternoon. The Vilas County sheriff's office reported finding 29-year old Michael Neal Larson during a ground search in a wooded area. An autopsy this week will determine the cause of death. He was last seen Tuesday, the third</p> <p>The head of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is pushing the "strongest open Internet protections ever proposed" by the federal agency. Tom Wheeler announced he's going for a</p>

very robust net neutrality regulation under what's called Title II, which means he's treating the Internet as a public utility. Big business and small entrepreneurs would have the same unrestricted, high-speed access to the Internet. Discussions have been going on for more than a decade. The proposal "assures the rights of Internet users to go where they want, when they want, and the rights of innovators to introduce new products without asking anyone's permission." More than four million public comments were taken into consideration during recent rule-making discussions — by far the most ever for an FCC rule-making proceeding.

A Rhinelander organization is looking for input from

					<p>businesses to plan future activities. Partners in Education or PIE is surveying area businesses to find what kind of employees are sought and what skill sets are most needed. PIE is an all-volunteer group of businesses, community and education professionals working to make sure students are learning the skills necessary to enter the workforce. More information and the survey are available on their Facebook page and website at rhinelanderpie-dot-com.</p>
Gov. Walker says no to Medicaid aid.	News	2/9/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>Governor Scott Walker has long said he would not take millions of federal dollars for Medicaid patients under Obama-care, because the state could be left with the entire cost someday. Now, the Republican Walker says it's only fair for Washington</p>

to help pay a bigger share of prescription drug subsidies for senior citizens -- and that's got Democrats accusing Walker of hypocrisy. Walker's proposed state budget would make 85-thousand people on the state's Senior-Care program use Medicare Part-"D" to obtain their prescriptions -- and Senior-Care would continue to provide drugs that Part-"D" doesn't cover. Senior-Care advocates say their program is cheaper and easier to use than Medicare. The state's A-A-R-P maintains the Walker budget is not a good one for the elderly, and people are starting to panic. Manure spills are more common on Wisconsin farms -- and environmentalists warn the growth of mega-dairies could lead to growing

mishaps. The D-N-R said livestock operations have spilled at least four-point-eight million gallons of manure since 2009. Over three-million gallons were spilled in the past two years alone. Most spills are caused by malfunctioning equipment, and are cleaned up without measurable harm to animals or people.

However reports of spills that resulted in fish-kills, contaminated drinking water, and polluted wetlands are on record. Wednesday night's Powerball jackpot is 450-million dollars, the largest since the game's record prize of 590-million. Wisconsinites have certainly taken notice. Almost 42-thousand tickets here won something Saturday night -- close to six times the normal for a Powerball drawing. In

					Mega Millions, the top prize is at 61-million dollars for tomorrow night.
A shakeup in the Menominie tribe	News	2/10/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>A government shakeup for the Menominee Tribe in the wake of the Governor's decision to reject their application for a southern Wisconsin casino. Gary Besaw replaced Laurie Boivin as tribal chair following a reorganization meeting yesterday. Officials won't say if the move is connected to Scott Walker's rejection of the \$800-million Menominee Hard Rock Casino project in Kenosha, a move condemned by lawmakers of both political parties representing southeastern Wisconsin. The tribe meets tonight to consider what its next move should be.</p> <p>The Wisconsin Department of Justice is trying to persuade the U.S. Supreme</p>

Court to stay out of the state's voter photo identification case. The agency argued courts across the country have upheld voter ID laws and there's no pressing need for the high court to take up the issue absent conflict.

Another change for Downtown Rhinelander, Incorporated as they prepare to move their Brown Street office. It's not that far, simply around the corner to Davenport street to a building they own. The former Rhinelander Office Supply building was donated to the organization and standing empty while they attempted to sell it. Their current lease expires next month and the board decided to move to the larger facility that will also allow development of a

					downtown business incubator. DRI may be in a fight for survival as the city council now has a petition to dissolve the business improvement district, which funds the organization. The move is among a number of changes DRI is making to improve efficiency, service and their bottom line.
Wisconsin bank to close some branches	News	2/10/15	12p,5p	1:30	Wisconsin's third-largest home-based bank says it will close seven branches in the northeast and northwest parts of the state. Bank Mutual of Brown Deer said yesterday it would shut down branches in Green Bay, Brillion, Peshtigo, Eau Claire, Menomonie, Cornell, and Barron. The closures are expected to occur between April and June. Bank Mutual says it will save one-and-a-half million dollars a year, as part of what it calls an "efficiency

and expense reduction effort."

State Supreme Court Justice Ann Walsh Bradley has just over 350-thousand dollars on hand for her April election against Rock County Circuit Judge James Daley. In a campaign finance report filed yesterday, Bradley said she raised almost 110-thousand dollars last month. That brings her total fundraising to 375-thousand. Daley's latest report was still pending as of late yesterday. He had until midnight to file it. He had raised almost 75-thousand dollars for his campaign through the end of 2014. It remains to be seen whether outside groups will pump money into the race. Some recent Supreme Court contests have seen special-interest spending far exceed what

the candidates themselves put up.

After announcing a shakeup in tribal leadership yesterday, reports in Milwaukee say the Menominee Tribe isn't giving up trying to develop an \$800-million casino complex in Kenosha. New claims today indicate the tribe is offering \$200-dollars to aid in the construction of a new downtown Milwaukee arena if Governor Scott Walker reverses his rejection of the casino project. Yesterday Tribal chair Laurie Boivin was replaced by Gary Besaw.

Fire destroyed restaurant In the Wausau area	News	2/11/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>Fire last night destroyed the Taco John's restaurant in Schofield. Rib Mountain and Weston departments responded to the calls shortly after nine, finding heavy smoke and flames already through the roof. Several employees and two customers were in the building at the time and all escaped unharmed.</p> <p>Not wanting to put a teenage girl in a courtroom, a Rhinelander man will plead to felony charges of exposing a child to harmful materials. 57-year old Bryan Dodd was charged in Oneida County court after a November incident for emailing numerous explicit photos and links to pornographic websites to the girl. He's back in court next month.</p> <p>Is the presidential buzz about Wisconsin Governor</p>
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Scott Walker being driven by Facebook? Walker delivered his State of the State address January 23rd and his Iowa Freedom Summit speech the next day, a Saturday. By Monday, Walker had nearly 75,000 mentions on Facebook — compared to only about 7,000 the day before his State of the State address.

An online history is Wisconsin's outdoors is available through old photos dating back to the 1930s. Among the images, General Eisenhower hunting, Elizabeth Taylor with a muskie, baseball star Ted Williams with a deer, Aldo Leopold addressing the Wisconsin conservation congress and many more. The project is a partnership with the UW Digital Collections Center and the

					DNR. Photos from more than 10,000 were hand-picked for this first release, which was posted earlier this month. The first 500 of more than 2000 old black and white photos are on the University of Wisconsin Digital collections website.
Senator Johnson speaks out on immigration	News	2/11/15	12p,5p	1:30	U-S Senate Homeland Security chairman Ron Johnson says the nation must reduce incentives for immigrants to enter the country illegally. If it doesn't, the Wisconsin Republican says the border security issues will never be fully resolved. Johnson made his first fact-finding trip to the Mexican border at Texas last weekend, in his new role as the Homeland Security Committee chair. He and other Republicans say President Obama's

executive orders on immigration have made it more lucrative to enter the U-S illegally. The G-O-P is in a standoff with Senate Democrats over funding to carry out the orders -- including the one that gives legal protections to several million undocumented immigrants. Wisconsin Democrat Tammy Baldwin defended the Obama orders, and called it "irresponsible" for the G-O-P to play politics with the agency that fights terrorism. Up to three-and-a-half inches of snow fell since yesterday in northern and central Wisconsin -- but it's not enough for good winter recreation in many places. Travel Wisconsin-Dot-Com says most snowmobile trails are closed in the southern two-thirds of the State. Trails in the north are generally in fair-to-good. Rhinelander

					<p>has 14-inches of snow on the ground, after a topping of almost an inch overnight. Sub-zero wind-chills are in the forecast for tonight, with actual lows of zero-to-four below statewide and highs in the single digits tomorrow.</p> <p>The third-largest jackpot in Powerball history just got bigger. Skyrocketing ticket sales have added 35-million dollars to the jackpot since Saturday night. That means 485-million is up for grabs tonight.</p>
Woman charged in income tax evasion	News	2/12/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>A 63-year old Ironwood woman will spend 15 months in federal prison, convicted of filing false tax returns after embezzling more than \$1.1 million from Trig's. Rebecca Hoff was the office manager and accounts payable bookkeeper for TA Solberg</p>

Company in Minocqua. From 2004 to 2010 she used company funds to buy a vehicle, make mortgage payments and work on her home. She pleaded guilty to the charges in December and was sentenced yesterday. The company never pursued the embezzlement charges so the IRS found her guilty of not claiming the money as income on her taxes.

Investigating a domestic disturbance in Antigo in December, police ended up in chase before arresting the suspect near Bushman's potato warehouse in Wittenberg. But not before he started it on fire. 39-year old Chadwick Wogsland is pleading not guilty in Langlade County Court to charges of arson, burglary, first degree recklessly endangering safety and fleeing an officer. He's

					<p>currently held on a \$100,000 cash bond and is back in court next week. Governor Scott Walker is the first potential presidential candidate to set up an Iowa office. While he's not an official candidate yet, the suburban strip mall office space rented by Walker's "Our American Revival" Political Action Committee has housed other presidential campaigns in recent years, including those of Mitt Romney, Michelle Bachmann and John McCain.</p> <p>Ticket sales were brisk as the Powerball jackpot swelled to more than \$560-million last night. Three of those tickets will split the pot with winners in North Carolina, Texas and Puerto Rico.</p>
Vote4 on Keystone pipeline	News	2/12/15	12p,5p	1:30	All five Wisconsin Republicans voted yes, and all three Democrats voted

no when the U-S House defied a veto threat yesterday and approved construction of the Keystone X-L oil pipeline. The measure was sent to President Obama. It was the 11th-time the G-O-P-controlled House approved Keystone. The pipeline would move Canadian crude down the nation's mid-section to the Gulf of Mexico.

It's one of the state's biggest land purchases, nearly 14,000 acres of forestland in Iron County, just south of the proposed Gogegic Taconite mine project. The purchase by the DNR comes from the non-profit Conservation Fund, which owns the property. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship will pay \$4.5 million for the land that features six small lakes and three miles of frontage to

two trout streams. Democrats in the state assembly announced their agenda for the upcoming legislative session. Included are bills raising the minimum wage, create grants for businesses with paid internships, expand broadband service in rural areas, restore cuts to the earned income tax credit among others, all designed according to lawmakers, to jumpstart personal income growth in the state. Republicans reacted by calling the plan a recycled attempt at increasing government spending. Governor Walker's rejecting that Menominee Tribe and Hard Rock Casino in Kenosha and turning down millions offered to help build a new arena for the Milwaukee Bucks could have the project move to Illinois. In news reports out

					of Milwaukee, officials supporting the project are warning Wisconsin the \$800-million development and the 10,000 jobs to go with it are slipping away.
Rhinelander police arrest a person in murder investigation	News	2/13/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Rhinelander Police last night arrested a second person in a 2003 murder investigation. 40-year old Shannon Wolf, who's already in prison for stabbing a woman, will be charged with first degree intentional homicide and hiding a corpse for his involvement in the death of Kenneth Wells. His body was found in the Wisconsin River days later. Wolf's ex-wife, 33 year old Latoya Wolf of Tomahawk was charged last month as a party to the crime. A

news release from city police indicates the investigations is still open.

The two people trapped in a burning home last night have died. Police in Mosinee say a man and woman were taken to Wausau Aspirus Hospital where they were pronounced dead. Two others in the duplex were able to escape the flames unharmed. Several departments responded in the bitter cold that was reported around five o'clock. The cause of the fire is not yet known, as are the names of the victims.

A bill to allow retailers to offer samples of hard

liquor has passed the state Assembly. The measure puts distillers on an even footing with Wisconsin breweries and wineries, by allowing them to offer just a half a fluid ounce tasting at grocers and retailers. No one is going to get a buzz on – the sample size amounts to just a tablespoon of booze – and each customer would be allowed only one such sample a day.

And in sports, the Packers made several coaching changes yesterday, the biggest being Mike McCarthy no longer calling plays for the offense.

	News	2/16/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	University of Wisconsin
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A rally in Madison over the weekend

students, faculty, and supporters rallied in Madison over the weekend. Hundreds braved bone chilling cold and high winds, to voice opposition to a state budget proposal cutting \$300 million in state funding for the system, while giving campuses more autonomy. Faculty members called for vigorous protests as state lawmakers meet on the issue. Other speakers warned of huge tuition hikes once a current cap on tuition is lifted, while others worried students would lose shared governance under the budget changes.

The government is proposing rules to usher in a new era in which small, commercial drones zipping through U.S. skies are a part of everyday life. It is likely to

be two or three years before the rules are made final, but federal officials said Sunday that once they are in place the economic and safety benefits of unmanned aircraft are expected to be enormous. Among the chores that officials envision drones performing: Aerial photography<sup>2</sup> and mapping, crop monitoring, and inspections of cell towers, bridges and other tall structures. But the proposal includes safety restrictions such as keeping drones within sight of operators at all times and no nighttime flights. That could mean no package or pizza deliveries by drone.

The [Green Bay Packers](#) increased the cost of watching a game for the sixth straight year. The team announced the

					increase of anywhere from \$3 to \$5, depending on seat location. Packers President Mark Murphy said the increases have kept the Packers in the middle of the NFL average ticket price.
Vaccinating pets controversy	News	2/16/15	12p,5p	1:30	As a debate grows over childhood vaccinations, at least some people don't believe in vaccinating their pets, either. That's a dangerous stance to take, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association. Pets can get a virus similar to measles -- which we're seeing in more children around the country. Canine distemper virus is very common -- and because animals like raccoons carry it, it's a risk for dogs. Also, many communities require proof of rabies vaccinations where dog-and-cat

licenses are mandated.

If one man has his way, an island in Superior would become the world's only disc-golf island. Charles Deville unveiled his plan at a recent meeting of the Douglas County Land-and-Development Committee. He wants to turn the county-owned Hog Island in Superior's Harbor Basin into a place where national disc-golf tournaments can be played. Deville also proposes a 650-foot boardwalk to the island with an observation deck and six scenic points of interest. Critics expressed concerns about liability and protecting two eagle nests. Deville says his next step is to discuss his proposal with the state D-N-R.

The weather word this week will be bitter as highs by Wednesday struggling to

					<p>get anywhere above zero. The entire state could have wind chills down to 35 below Wednesday through Friday morning.</p> <p>Rhinelander High School broke its own state record over the weekend, taking its 29<sup>th</sup> consecutive Regional Mock Trial championship. They now head to Madison for the state finals in March, a place they're very familiar with, having won the state championship 17 times.</p>
Democrats hope Gov. Walker changes his mind	News	2/17/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>Democrats hope Gov. Scott Walker will change his mind and accept federal dollars for Medicaid. They've proposed a plan to expand Wisconsin's BadgerCare coverage saying it would save \$240 million over the next two years. But the bill faces opposition as it enters the Republican-controlled</p>

Assembly and Senate chambers.

Voters in Rhinelander will be asked in April to approve a new half-percent Premier Resort Area Tax. Meeting last night, more of the plan was laid out to city officials and businesses that would be impacted. Right now Rhinelander collects over a third of the sales taxes collected in the county but doesn't see any of the money. The new tax would be used specifically for road and other infrastructure projects. Estimates put the funds near half a million dollars. Five other communities in the state, including Eagle River, utilize the Premier Resort Area Tax. And even if approved by voters, it still must pass the state legislature before being enacted.

					Snowmobile trails across Oneida, Vilas, Price and Forest Counties are in great shape and the traffic has been virtually non-stop. Area chambers and snowmobile clubs report steady flows into businesses like lodging, restaurants and bars, gas stations and others catering to travelers. While the cold can be difficult to handle sometimes, it's keeping the ice firm and snow on the ground. One official said he's glad this isn't Boston, where there's no where left to put the snow. A minor accumulation is expected here into the weekend.
State core education standards in the news	News	2/17/15	12p,5p	1:30	An opponent of Wisconsin's Common Core education standards is working on a bill to have schools <i>not</i> submit the scores of a new state achievement test to be given next month. Senate Republican Paul

Farrow of Pewaukee wants to give schools a one-year waiver from having to report the results of the new Badger Exam -- which is tied to the Common Core standards. Farrow says schools shouldn't let the state publish the results of the exam -- which would be scrapped under the governor's proposed state budget, in favor of alternative tests. Education officials say the state is required to give out the exam, as part of a federal agreement -- and not honoring it would put a half-million federal education dollars at risk.

Lawmakers of both parties were critical, after we learned yesterday the Walker administration will delay 108-million dollars in state debt payments to help balance the current budget. The non-partisan

					<p>Legislative Fiscal Bureau said the G-O-P administration will only pay the interest on certain obligations that are scheduled in May, which can mean higher paybacks from taxpayers in the future, including an extra 19-million in the next budget which takes effect in July. Former Democratic Governor Jim Doyle did the same thing. It's primary election day. Wisconsin voters will elect a new state senator, and choose finalists for a host of local government and school board positions. All polls close at eight tonight.</p>
A Pembine man arrested	News	2/18/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>With a final deadline tomorrow, it doesn't look like Governor Scott Walker will be meeting with Menominee tribal representatives who are hoping to have him reconsider <a href="#"><u>his rejection</u></a> of the tribe's Kenosha casino</p>

plans. Walker was in Kenosha to announce Toolamation Services, Inc. is moving from Zion, Illinois to Kenosha, bringing about 50 jobs. While Walker was inside a south side building making the announcement, Menominee Tribal Chairman Gary Besaw joined about two dozen protesters across the street.

A Pembine man faces two felonies among other charges in connection with a break-in at a church in Wausau. 25-year old Joshua Stein is accused of the burglary last June of St. John's Lutheran Church east of Wausau. In Marathon County Court yesterday Stein pleaded not guilty to several criminal damage to property charges. He's back in court April 6<sup>th</sup>. A series of fires in Spooner

					<p>yesterday has discolored the water in the city. Residents are advised to run cold water for about 20 minutes to help flush the pipes of sediment picked up from using the fire hydrants. Anyone with discolored water yet today is asked to contact the city hall.</p> <p>The Assembly committee on transportation met yesterday on a measure to increase the speed limit on state highways. Neighboring states increased their maximum speeds to 70mph while Wisconsin's stays at 65. The department of transportation and its safety engineers have the final say and maintain it's a safety issue. A vote on the bill is expected next month.</p>
Dissapointment in the Menominie tribe	News	2/19/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	There was disappointment for the Menominee tribe yesterday – along with a

sense of solidarity. A group of tribal members walked from the Menominee Reservation to Madison, 156 miles, where Menominee chair Gary Besaw hoped to meet with Governor Scott Walker to discuss the proposed Menominee Hard Rock Kenosha Casino, which Walker rejected last month. That decision came more than a month before the Bureau of Indian Affairs deadline of today, and last week the Menominee and Hard Rock International made a proposal which included financial assistance for construction of a new NBA arena in downtown Milwaukee. By the way the governor was not in yesterday.

One man was hurt and three others escaped injury when the pickup they were in rolled over. The

Marathon County sheriff's department reports the truck rolled near the Wonderland and Junction Roads intersection in the town of Easton about 11:00 last night. The victim taken to Wausau Aspirus Hospital with unknown injuries.

Gas prices are rising, but some analysts think crude oil prices could fall dramatically. A report from Bloomberg says they might even dip as low as \$10 a barrel. If they drop to a certain level though, he says producers will make changes to prop them back up. He says slower production would bring the "demand curve" back into balance. The Bloomberg report cites slow global economic growth, improving vehicle mileage, and a glut of oil, for the predicted price drop. How

					that affects prices at the pump remain to be seen.
Two northwest Wisconsin men indicted on drug charges	News	2/19/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>Two northwest Wisconsin men have been indicted for conspiring to import a drug that became illegal last year. The U-S Attorney's office in Madison announced a grand jury indictment yesterday against Michael Moreno and Paul Heidbreder, both of Hayward. According to the indictment, Moreno cultivated a source in China to provide Alpha-P-V-P. Heidbreder and an unnamed co-conspirator allegedly paid Moreno to wire a drug order to China. Officials said the three then split up the P-V-P they received and sold it for about 100-dollars a gram. Besides conspiracy, both are charged with attempted possession of Alpha-P-V-P, and possessing</p>

it with the intent to sell. There was no immediate word when the two defendants would appear in federal court. Authorities said smoke detectors did not appear to be working when a duplex fire killed an elderly brother and sister in Mosinee last week. Officials said 75-year-old Hershel Bauman had physical limits which could have made it hard for him to escape the flames. He and 68-year-old Neatha Carwile died in the blaze last Thursday. Three others escaped the building. The cause hasn't been determined but it appears to have started in the kitchen.

As he continues to explore a potential presidential run, Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker is adding key staff members to his team in

					New Hampshire – a crucial early primary state in 2016. A spokesman with Walker's political group, Our American Revival, says several advisors have been added to handle everything from day-to-day operations and personal management to international relations and domestic policy.
Chimney fire destroys home west of Rhinelander	News	2/20/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	A reported chimney fire destroyed a home west of Rhinelander last night. Several volunteer departments and city firefighters got the call about 8:15 to the home on Highway K. Four people inside were able to get out unharmed. No other information is available other than the Red Cross is assisting. The Oneida County Sheriff's office reported a snowmobile fatality late

yesterday afternoon. The accident happened near Birch Lake Road just east of Lake Tomahawk shortly after five. The operator, whose machine left the road and struck a tree, was pronounced dead at the scene.

A 30-year old Crandon man will go to trial, charged with 10 counts of possessing child pornography. Justin Bula, free on a \$15,000 cash bond, is accused of emailing explicit photos and possessing other images and videos. He pleaded not guilty in Forest County Court yesterday. He's back in court in mid-April.

Governor Scott Walker wants to give someone with real life experience the option to pass a competency test and get a teaching license, though

					not everyone likes the idea, discussed at a public hearing yesterday in Madison. The Department of Public Instruction maintains it takes more than a license, like knowing how to teach. While there are some alternatives to getting licensed the department notes teachers must demonstrate include having evidence of communications skills, knowledge of the subject, human relations, student teaching experience, and there are statutory requirements. Officials say Wisconsin teachers need two things, have is a bachelor's degree and complete an approved education preparation program.
Right to work legislation in the state	News	2/23/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	After saying for months taking up right-to-work legislation would be a

distraction from other priorities facing Wisconsin, Governor Scott Walker's staff indicated he will sign legislation if it makes it to his desk. Republican leaders say they plan to call an extraordinary session this week to take up a right-to-work proposal, which would keep employers from requiring union membership as a condition of employment. Senate Republican Leader Scott Fitzgerald said he has the votes needed to pass the measure, and hopes to have it through his chamber by Thursday.

The Department of Homeland Security is warning shoppers at the Mall of America to be careful. This comes after Somali terrorist group al Shabaab released an online video Saturday

naming the Minneapolis mall as a potential target. The Mall of America said in a statement they have implemented extra security precautions, some may be noticeable to guests and others won't be." Al Shabaab is the group behind a 2013 terror attack on a mall in Kenya, killing more than 60 people. The average price of a regular gallon of gas jumped 13 cents in the past two weeks to \$2.33, repeating the hike seen two weeks prior for a total 26 cents rise in the last month. Analysts say the rise follows months of crashing prices and is still \$1.08 per gallon less than a year ago, attributed to an increase in crude oil prices in mid-January, labor strikes at several refineries and a California fire at a refinery.

A cold weather pattern remains in the state	News	2/23/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>Wisconsin remains stuck in a weather pattern of bitter cold, followed by a warm-up with snow, and then back in the deep freeze.</p> <p>After a bitter cold morning, highs will hit up to 12 above, followed by patchy blowing snow tonight and tomorrow. It was 35-below at seven a-m at Land O'Lakes. Rhinelander had the coldest wind-chill at minus-42, with an actual reading of 24-below. The National Weather Service reported no place in Wisconsin above zero this morning.</p> <p>It's not often you hear about a drug bust at an ice-shack -- but it happened over the on Lake Alexander near Merrill. A Lincoln county deputy was checking the buildings when he noticed a strong odor from one of the shanties late Saturday night.</p>
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Just before the deputy could go inside, a vehicle arrived -- but officials said the driver tried to high-tail it away when spotting the officer. The deputy stopped the vehicle, and found two offenders -- an 18-year-old who was violating probation by drinking and a 17-year-old wanted on a warrant in neighboring Marathon County. The deputy later returned to the ice-shack, where the smell of pot was stronger than before. Officials said a 17-year-old boy provided the marijuana, and a 19-year-old brought the paraphernalia. About a half-dozen others were cited for underage drinking, and were sent home with sober drivers. The Assembly's criminal justice committee will conduct a public hearing

					Thursday in Madison on a bill to end Wisconsin's waiting period to buy handguns.
Union workers around the state are standing in solidarity	News	2/24/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Union leaders from across Wisconsin are standing together in solidarity to fight proposed right-to-work legislation. Republican lawmakers are hoping to fast-track a bill this week that would prohibit making union membership or paying dues a condition of employment. A public hearing before a state Senate committee is set for this morning, with a vote in the full Senate coming as early as tomorrow night. Opponents call right-to-work "an attack on all Wisconsin families," Republican backers of the bill maintain right-to-work is a key step in attracting new businesses to the state. Union groups plan to rally at the capitol today and

tomorrow.

Two healthcare giants are talking partnership in Central Wisconsin.

Marshfield Clinic is looking to open a new specialty facility with the help of Aspirus for more out-patient care. Insiders say everything is in the preliminary stage but projections out 10-to-15 years show it to provide more affordable care and the potential for more jobs.

The victim of a snowmobile accident early Sunday morning has been identified as 22 year old Dylan Denk. The Clark County Sheriff's office said the crash occurred on a trail near Hwy 73 just north of Greenwood, where he lived. Officials say he lost control of the sled as it topped a hill and hit a tree.

Michigan State

					Representative Phil Potvin wants to make it legal for schools to host bake sales again, and introduced a bill exempting state schools from the federal Smart Snacks food standards. He says the fundraisers are a time-honored tradition for important school activities.
A man pleads innocent in drug death	News	2/24/15	12p,5p	1:30	Unlike the Act-10 limits on public union bargaining, Wisconsin's right-to-work bill for private companies may not attract as many lawsuits if it's passed. Over a half-dozen suits challenged the legality of Act-10 before the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled it to be constitutional a year ago. Marquette law professor Paul Secunda says it's not likely that organized labor would win a lawsuit against the right-to-work bill -- which is up for a vote in the state Senate tomorrow, and in the Assembly next

week.

Another man has pleaded innocent to charges connected with the drug overdose death of a U-W Stevens Point student.

Twenty-one Charlie Phillips-Moore of Madison was arraigned yesterday, right after he was ordered to stand trial on a Portage County charge of first-degree reckless homicide.

He's due back in court June first, when a trial date could be set. Police said Phillips-Moore was part of a drug supply chain that caused the death of 21-year-old Jordan Peterson in 2013. Twenty-seven year old Erik Olsen is scheduled for a trial April 13th for allegedly supplying Peterson with the heroin that killed him. Compared to what it has been, today was relatively mild. All of the state hit the

					20s and 30s but it was tempered by wind gusts knocking wind chills back below zero. Which is where the temperatures are going to go again after today. The National Weather Service and State Patrol advise drivers the snow and wind combination can make visibility limited for periods of time and travelers are reminded to make sure their headlights are on for added safety.
Water quality issues discussed in D.C.	News	2/25/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	The Great Lakes Commission is holding a two-day summit in Washington to discuss water quality issues -- and to lobby for the restoring of federal funds. The commission oversees environmental activities on the Great Lakes, representing eight U.S. states and two Canadian provinces. Yesterday, the panel heard ideas for

reducing the run-off of nutrients which have been blamed for outbreaks of toxic algae. Today and tomorrow, the group will team up the Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition. They'll urge Congress to restore 50-million dollars that was cut from President Obama's next federal budget for various clean-up projects. Former U-S Senator Russ Feingold has ended an 18-month diplomatic mission to Africa, raising speculation that he'll try to win his old Senate post back next year. Feingold delivered his final speech yesterday as a special envoy to the Great Lakes region of Africa. He said a lot of progress has been made there in neutralizing armed organizations, while increasing U-S involvement in the region. Feingold has

said very little about his future ambitions. In his final diplomatic speech, he thanked his assistant Mary Irvine -- whom he described as his "once, current, and I hope future chief-of-staff."

Feingold, a Democrat from Middleton, spent 18 years in the U-S Senate before he was defeated by Ron Johnson in a national Republican wave during the 2010 elections.

Nobody won the Mega Millions' jackpot last night, so it goes up to 127-million dollars for Friday. In Powerball, a 70-million dollar jackpot will be up for grabs tonight.

Merrill resident dies in head on collision	News	2/25/15	12p,5p	1:30	A 33-year old Merrill woman died in a head on collision on Hwy 17 yesterday. The Lincoln County Sheriff's office reported the crash about 1:30 at Hinz Road near Merrill. Her name has not yet been released. In
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Marathon County, the high winds yesterday were a factor in the crash of a semi truck near Stratford. Two people were hurt when the rig jack knifed and struck an oncoming car on Hwy 97. The Wisconsin Senate debates right-to-work legislation today, after the measure was rushed to a committee vote last night. Labor Committee chair, Senator Steve Nass abruptly called for the vote before taking public comment, citing a credible threat that unions would try to disrupt the meeting. Observers said there was only an insistence the committee allow people to testify. Stephanie Bloominigdale with the Wisconsin AFL-CIO said cutting off debate was not the right thing to do. The Wisconsin Conservation Congress is taking issue with part of Governor Scott

Walker's proposed budget, stripping the power of the Natural Resources Board to only advisory status, putting the rule making process in the hands of an appointed DNR secretary. WCC chairman Rob Bohmann says the current process is very transparent, conducting hearings in every county and to change that would make the state's resource management much more political with decisions made behind closed doors. Lake Superior's popular ice caves could be open to the public this weekend. Apostle Islands National Lakeshore officials are checking the ice today before making the call. Over 130-thousand people visited the caves last year.

Gov. Walker speaks in D.C.	News	2/27/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Governor Scott Walker used his remarks at the annual Conservative Political

Action Conference in Washington yesterday to suggest the people who took part in 2011's Act 10 protests in Madison weren't all that different from radical Islamic terrorists. He said the next president needs to lead, and "send a message" to protect American soil and "freedom loving people anywhere else in the world."

Families sending someone off to college may appreciate the changes being made to some government endorsed college savings plans. Congressman Ron Kind says the tax-free 529 college savings plans, such as Wisconsin's EdVest program, have several rules and restrictions that need to be revised, such as what you can and cannot use

the money for, like computers. With the use of computers moving from optional to a necessity, the House of Representatives yesterday passed the measure, making computer purchases possible and allow students to leave school to save money and then return.

The Natural Resources Board approved a county by county recommendation on deer population goals. Those goals were set and requested by the County Deer Advisory Councils, a product of the Deer Trustee Report. Counties to the north have been hurting for lack of deer and requested fewer tags. Counties in central and southern Wisconsin are asking for more where they have a much more productive

					deer population. The requests and goals will be reviewed each year over the next three years. The Councils will reconvene again in March to go over antlerless tags and send more recommendations to the Board for their May meeting.
Low income residents might have to start paying premiums for badger care	News	2/27/15	12p,5p	1:30	About 150-thousand low-income adults in Wisconsin might have to start paying premiums to keep their Badger-Care – and may have to pay more if they smoke, or engage in other risky behavior. The Legislative Fiscal Bureau uncovered those proposals when it analyzed Governor Scott Walker's two-year, 68-billion dollar budget package. It said the governor would need a federal Medicaid waiver to charge premiums for the first time to the lowest-

income childless adults on Badger-Care Plus. The proposal did not disclose specifics for risky behavior.

Senator Ron Johnson is threatening to subpoena an investigation into the issues at the Tomah Veterans Affairs Medical Center if the VA won't turn files over. Johnson gave Acting VA Inspector General Richard Griffin until 5pm this afternoon to turn over the document. Johnson says Griffin has repeatedly refused to cooperate with the Senate's Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. A spokesperson for the VA says federal law prohibits them from turning over the file, because it contains personal medical records. Johnson launched the investigation after a report

the facility was over-prescribing opiate painkillers for several years was released.

Superior is the most affordable place to live in Wisconsin. According to a financial services survey, Superior has low mortgage payments, insurance fees, and property taxes as a percentage of the local median income. Marinette is ranked second, followed by Antigo, Merrill, Berlin, New London, Two Rivers, Wisconsin Rapids, Beloit, and Little Chute.

Nationally, Superior is the 57th most affordable place to live. Five of the 10 cheapest places are in Texas. Mesquite is Number-One.

#### **Quarterly Issues/Programs List**

**Station:** wobt  
**Quarter:** 1<sup>st</sup> (march)  
**Year:** 2015

<b>ISSUE DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>PROGRAM SEGMENT</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>DURATION</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF SEGMENT</b>
Future of Wisconsin mining in doubt	News	3/2/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>The future of mining in Wisconsin is in doubt as the latest company to explore that possibility is closing its office. Gogebic Taconite will continue pursuing a permit but numerous delays doesn't warrant being here. More than two years of controversy surrounds the project in Ashland and Iron Counties with lawmakers streamlining the process while environmental groups, the state's Indian tribes and federal officials have succeeded in slowing things down.</p> <p>A weekend snowmobile accident in St. Germain has a Beaver Dam woman in the hospital. The Vilas County sheriff's department reported the accident just</p>

after 11:00 near Hwy 70 Saturday morning. The 19-year old woman left the trail and hit a tree and was flown to Wausau Aspirus Hospital.

Wausau police identified the teen killed in a stabbing Friday night. Thirteen year old Isaiah Powell died after the incident involving several other teens, possibly gang related. A 15 year old is in custody and could be charged as an adult with first degree reckless homicide. The stabbing occurred over an argument on social media.

The fourth coldest February here is over but until residents of Three Lakes hear different, the sanitary district asks people to crack open a faucet to let the water run in a small stream. Officials will announce when taps can be turned off.

					The entire state is covered under a winter weather advisory until 6 tomorrow night. Snow is expected to develop late tonight and intensify by morning, bringing around 3-5 inches. Sub zero temperatures are right behind.
Snowmobiler dies in Vilas Co.	News	3/2/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>The Vilas Country Sheriff's office reports the 19-year old woman involved in a weekend snowmobile accident has died. Investigators say Emily Lyons of Beaver Dam lost control of her machine on a trail near Hwy 70 in St. Germain just after 11 Saturday morning, left the trail and struck a tree. She was taken by ambulance to the St. Germain community parking lot where she was airlifted by Spirit Air to Wausau Aspirus Hospital. The accident remains under investigation.</p>

Three people were hurt in a traffic accident in Minocqua yesterday. Police reported the crash on Blue Lake Road just after 6 last night. 21-year old Zechariah Hilgart of Park Falls was cited for OWI in the crash that injured 56-year old Donal Cupp and 57-year old Sallie Florence, both of Kaukauna.

A Wisconsin Assembly committee is getting input on the right-to-work bill. The house labor panel will take testimony until 8. The state Senate passed the right-to-work bill last week, and the full Assembly expects to take it up later this week. It makes it a criminal misdemeanor to force employees to join their company unions, or pay union dues. Private sector unions have strongly opposed right-to-work, claiming it will reduce their

					influence in the workplace and drive down wages and benefits. Supporters say it allows workers the right to choose whether they want union ties -- and many new businesses consider whether a state has a right-to-work law in deciding whether-or-not to locate there.
Land O Lakes woman heading to prison	News	3/3/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>Controversial right-to-work legislation heads to the Assembly floor Thursday, following a nearly 12-hour long public hearing on the proposal at the Capitol. The Assembly Labor Committee heard from a long line of speakers yesterday, with the vast majority of those registering in opposition to the bill.</p> <p>A Land O' Lakes woman is headed for prison. 41-year old Jody Shepherd was sentenced yesterday to three years for having sex</p>

with an underaged teen. She was a special education teaching assistant at North Lakeland School in Manitowish Waters in June of 2013 when the incident took place. Upon release, Shepherd will spend three years on extended supervision and also need to register as a sex offender.

A Wausau teen faces prison in a fatal stabbing last Friday. 15-year old Dylan Yang is charged with first degree reckless homicide in the death of 13-year old Isaiah Powell. Investigators say about 10 teens were involved in a dispute that began over social media. Bond was set at a million dollars, cash.

The number of schools interested in taking part in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program took a big

					jump. The state Department of Public Instruction finds 98 private and religious schools have applied to accept voucher students next fall. Of those, 31 are seeking to continue their registration from last year, while 36 applied for the first time. Another 31 are already participating in the Milwaukee and Racine Parental Choice Programs. The statewide voucher program is open to students with a family income at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty level.
Gov Walker to speak at NRA meeting	News	3/3/15	12p,5p	1:30	Governor Scott Walker will speak to one of the Republican Party's best-known allies next month. The National Rifle Association says Walker and a half-dozen other potential G-O-P White House hopefups will speak at the group's annual meeting in

Nashville. It's set for April 10th-through-12th. Meanwhile, Democrats on the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee grilled Administration Secretary Mike Huebsch (hibsh) yesterday about the costs of the governor's security detail -- which taxpayers have traditionally covered for both official-and-campaign appearances. Senate Democrat Jon Erpenbach of Middleton said the governor needs security, but as he put it, Walker "doesn't have to do every single political activity under the sun, which it seems like he's doing right now." Local leaders on both sides of the northern Wisconsin mining debate are convinced some type of project will return someday. That's after Gogebic Taconite said late Friday it

					would halt development of its proposed iron ore mine near Mellen, due to the cost of replacing a growing number of wetlands found on the site. The mayor of nearby Hurley, Joe Pinardi, said there are people "hanging on by a string" who were hoping to get the jobs the mine would have offered. Still, Pinardi believes someone will eventually tap into what he called "the richest vein of iron ore in North America." Bad River tribal chairman Mike Wiggins hopes that never happens. He said Gogebic Taconite has cost the region "a ton of money" and a "ton of headaches" with its mining proposal.
Car rollover west of Rhinelander	News	3/4/15	6a,7a,8a,	1:30	Several people were treated and released from the hospital following a one car rollover yesterday just west of Rhinelander on Hwy G. The accident near

Nicolet College happened just after 1:00 on the snow-covered stretch of road. Latoya Wolf is back in Oneida county court next month, after pleading not guilty yesterday to being a party to the crime of intentional homicide in the death of Kenneth Wells of Rhinelander in 2003. His body was discovered in the Wisconsin River, downtown. Wolf said her ex-husband, Shannon Wolf committed the crime. He's serving time on another conviction and is back in court Friday. The state Assembly will take up a bill to raise Wisconsin's speed limit to 70 mph. The measure got committee approval yesterday with an amendment rejected that would have allowed the dept of transportation to have commercial vehicles travel at 65. Members agreed highways are safer

when all traffic is moving at the same speed. A vote on the bill is expected later this month.

DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp supports a plan in Governor Scott Walker's budget taking away the rule making authority of the Natural Resources Board and making it an advisory panel to the appointed secretary. The governor also appoints the board, something lawmakers say would make future decisions political.

Monday, residents of Three Lakes were advised to have a small stream of water running to prevent pipes from freezing. Now you can add Eagle River to that list. Until further notice, city residents are asked to keep a pencil thin stream running to avoid problems.

Arrest in stabbing death in Wausau	News	3/4/15	12p,5p	1:30	Another arrest in the stabbing death of a

Wausau teen last week. 19-year old Nia Phillips is in jail on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor when she allegedly drove 13-year old Issaiah Powell to a fight where he was stabbed. 15-year old Dylan Yang is charged as an adult in the case and officials say other charges are pending. A group of about 10 teens took part in the altercation that began over a dispute on social media.

Governor Scott Walker says he would support a ban on abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy. He has long been pro-life, but refused to say during his re-election campaign last fall whether he'd support a Wisconsin abortion ban after 20 weeks. There's not a bill yet to that effect -- but pro-life groups say it's a priority, and they expect such a ban to

					be introduced in the state Legislature sometime this year. Wisconsin's health secretary says the federal government will have to deal with the fallout, if the U.S Supreme Court rules tax subsidies for Obama-care coverage are unconstitutional. The justices hear oral arguments today on whether it's legal to give out subsidies in Wisconsin and almost three dozen other states that use the federal purchasing exchanges. The state Legislature's Joint Finance Committee asked Health Services Secretary Kitty Rhoades yesterday if she had a plan to deal with the matter. Rhoades said the state would work with its federal partners, to make sure "they get it fixed right."
A Wabeno man could be heading to prison	News	3/5/15	6a,7a,8a,	1:30	A Wabeno man could face a prison sentence of 30-

years or more. 23-year old Justin Bey yesterday pleaded guilty to three of the five felony charges against him in connection with the severe beating of a man last March, leaving him to die in the woods. He was found alive by two ATVers just northeast of Crandon two days later. Sentencing is set for August. Three others were involved, two women have already been sentenced while 45-year old Raymond Jones of Wabeno is back in Forest County court in May for trial on eight charges including attempted first degree intentional homicide. A Portage County traffic accident killed a 56-year old woman. The Sheriff's Department reported the crash just before 4:00 yesterday near Plover. The woman was stopping for a school bus on Hwy 54 when

she was rear-ended by a pickup. She had to be cut out of the vehicle and was taken to St. Michael's Hospital in Stevens Point where she died. The 25-year old driver of the truck was unhurt.

Governor Scott Walker says he'll sign the right-to-work bill Monday. Problem is the measure isn't out of the Assembly yet, they're debating it today. The controversial bill has been the product of a fast-paced legislative process, introduced less than two weeks ago.

Rhinelander high school's mock trial team will defend its state title this weekend in Madison. This is the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual tournament at the Dane County Courthouse. Rhinelander has taken the state title 17 times including six of the last ten years and one national championship.

Wausau woman has bond set	News	3/5/15	12p,5p	1:30	A 10-thousand dollar cash bond is set for a Wausau woman accused of driving a group of teens to an apparent gang-related fight where a 13-year-old boy was killed. Nineteen-year-old Nia Phillips made her first court appearance yesterday on a felony charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor in relation to a death. Thirteen-year-old Isaiah Powell was stabbed to death last Friday night. Police said two teens argued on Facebook, and each had their supporters meet on a Wausau street where Powell was later killed by an apparent gang rival. Prosecutors said over ten knives were found in Phillips' car. Fifteen-year-old Dylan Yang is charged as an adult with reckless homicide. He has a preliminary hearing set for
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next Thursday in Marathon County Circuit court. As Wisconsin Republicans consider reining in unions, G-O-P senators in Washington are trying to stop a rule which makes it easier to form those groups.

Yesterday, the U-S Senate voted to overturn a new federal rule shortening the amount of time for which employers can prepare for workers' votes to form unions. Republican Ron Johnson voted to disapprove of the new rule, while Democrat Tammy Baldwin favored the change.

The Powerball jackpot is back at 100-million dollars, just three weeks after a 564-million-dollar prize was split three ways. Nobody won last night's jackpot, and nobody from Wisconsin won any of the top prizes. Mega Millions has a 20-million

					dollar jackpot up for grabs tomorrow night.
Controversial right to work bill	News	3/6/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	As of 4:00 this morning the state Assembly was still debating the controversial right-to-work bill, specifically a motion to send the measure back to committee. Democrats have repeatedly questioned why majority Republicans are rushing to pass it. They argue the time is needed to allow for more public input. The bill would prohibit employers from negotiating contracts that require union membership or paying dues as a condition of employment. Democrats have introduced at least ten amendments to the bill, although none had been voted on yet more than 17 hours into the session day. It passed the Senate last week and if it clears the Assembly, Governor Walker

has said he'll sign it into law. A vote is expected on the plan by about nine this morning.

The Joint Finance Committee will take Governor Scott Walker's budget on the road this month, giving Wisconsin residents the chance to comment on the plan. The first hearing is the 18<sup>th</sup> at Brillion High School in Calumet county. From there it travels to Milwaukee, Rice Lake and Reedsburg.

Charged with 14 felonies, 53-year old Kevin Maulson was sentenced to prison yesterday in Vilas County Court. The former Lac du Flambeau man was convicted on three of the counts for business theft and making false statements on a securities sale. Court records show he misled investors about

					an ATM business he owned and ended up taking the money, being millions of dollars in debt from business dealings dating back to 2001.
Local fire depts.. called out	News	3/6/15	12p,5p	1:30	Several township volunteer fire departments were sent out Hwy K west of Rhinelander to a blaze just past Velvet Lake Road shortly after 5:00 while city crews responded to a call on River Glen Drive on the city's west side. No details of either fire were immediately available. A Wisconsin Rapids woman killed after her car was rear-ended while she was stopped for a school bus has been identified as 56-year-old Mary Knuth. A 25-year-old Wisconsin Rapids man was cited for following too closely behind the victim's vehicle. The crash happened late Wednesday afternoon on Highway 54

west of Plover. Twenty-five people were killed in Wisconsin traffic crashes last month, five more than the same month a year ago, when the state was trudging through one of its coldest-and-snowiest winters in recent memory.

The D-O-T issued preliminary figures yesterday, showing Wisconsin had two fewer traffic deaths last month than the average for the past five Februaries. It was the third safest February in the last decade, and the fourth-safest since modern highways came about at the end of World War Two in the 1940's.

A national poll gives Governor Scott Walker a slight lead over Jeb Bush among the potential Republican presidential candidates. However, Quinnipiac (kwin'-uh-pee-

					ack) University of Connecticut has Walker losing to Democrat Hillary Clinton 48-to-39 percent in a general election matchup that's 20 months away. Fifty-six percent in the poll support her.
Homicide suspects arrested in Indiana	News	3/9/15	6a,7a,8a,	1:30	<p>The two suspects, wanted in connection with a double homicide in Oneida County have been arrested in Indiana. The Sheriff's department reports 17 year old Ashlee Anne Rose Martinson and 22-year old Ryan Daniel Sisco were captured last night. A 911 call came in shortly before 11 yesterday morning from a home in the town of Piehl. A man and woman were discovered dead. Martinson was considered armed and dangerous during the search.</p> <p>He took on public sector unions shortly after he</p>

became governor of Wisconsin, now Scott Walker will make his mark on the private sector as Wisconsin becomes the 25<sup>th</sup> right to work state in the nation when he signs the bill making it illegal to force employees to pay union dues. Walker, who's considering a likely 2016 presidential run, didn't introduce the measure the cleared the Assembly Friday, but quickly got behind it after previously saying it would be a distraction and not a priority.

Increased rail traffic means a fiery derailment could happen in Wisconsin. State Railroad Commissioner Jeff Plale said the rapid growth of rail traffic could mean a fiery wreck here, similar to one last week in northwest Illinois. Though, he said he

					<p>doesn't want to alarm anyone and that we've been very fortunate. Plale says the state is prepared in the event that it does happen." Canadian Pacific Railway trains carrying oil and ethanol pass through Wisconsin almost every day. On Saturday, a CN Rail train carrying oil derailed in Ontario and caught fire. No injuries were reported.</p>
Deputies from Oneida Co. travel to Indiana	News	3/9/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>Deputies with the Oneida County Sheriff's department are headed to Indiana to question two suspects in a double homicide yesterday. 17-year old Ashlee Anne Rose Martinson and her boyfriend, 22-year old Ryan Sisco were arrested near Lebanon, just northwest of Indianapolis. The pair await extradition back to Wisconsin after authorities</p>

discovered a man and woman killed yesterday morning just before 11 at a home in the town of Piehl. Boone County authorities were alerted to the fugitives through the national crime information center and with the cooperation of several area departments were able to locate the pickup the pair used to flee the area on Hwy 65 last night. They were taken into custody without incident. Supporters of a 15-year-old murder suspect in Wausau tried using a crowd-funding Web site to raise money for his bond and legal defense. However, You-Caring-Dot-Com took down the site less than a day after it went up last Wednesday. The fund was called "Help Free Dylan Yang from an Unfair Sentence." However the site does not allow fundraising for bail bonds or

					legal matters -- and anything related is considered on a case-by-case basis. Yang is being held under a million-dollar bond, for allegedly stabbing 13-year-old Isaiah Powell to death during a street fight on the night of February 27th. Yang is due back in Marathon County Circuit Court Thursday for a preliminary hearing on an adult charge of reckless homicide. Rhinelander's Mock Trial team captured third place at State competition over the weekend. Appleton Xavier will represent Wisconsin at Nationals in May.
Charges have been filed in Oneida Co. fro alleged murderer	News	3/10/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Two counts of first degree intentional homicide and three counts of false imprisonment have been filed against Ashlee Martinson. The 17-year old is charged with killing her

mother and step-father over the weekend at their home in the town of Piehl, just east of Rhinelander. 37-year old Thomas and 40-year old Jennifer Ayers were found shot Sunday morning, their three young daughters locked in a bedroom. She was arrested yesterday near Indianapolis after a nationwide alert was issued for her capture. The investigation revealed Martinson's blog page online, detailing, in graphic fashion her fascination with death and killing. In a news release from the Sheriff's department in Boone County, Indiana, where Martinson is being held, extradition proceedings should take place soon to bring her back to Wisconsin.

The family of an unarmed black man fatally shot by a Madison police officer last

week expects to get answers from an investigation, but also urged calm in the wake of the shooting. During a news conference outside the home where Tony Robinson Jr. was [shot Friday night](#), his uncle, Turin Carter, said yesterday the family has confidence the Department of Justice will fairly review the shooting. Carter did express some frustration as the family, had still not been able to view his body three days after the shooting. Demonstrators took to the streets around Madison through the weekend and yesterday, with over a thousand high school and college students [marching on the state Capitol](#) building and Madison's City County Building. No arrests were made.

Alleged killer may soon be back in Wisconsin	News	3/10/15	12p,5p	1:30	The teenager accused of killing her mother and step father may soon be back in Wisconsin. 17-year old Ashlee Martinson is in a Boone County, Indiana jail awaiting extradition for the shooting of 40-year old Jennifer and 37-year old Thomas Ayres in their rural Rhinelander home this past weekend. She faces two charges of first degree intentional homicide and three counts of false imprisonment for locking her three sisters in a bedroom at their home in the town of Piehl. She fled the scene with her boyfriend before being picked up just northwest of Indianapolis yesterday. The city of Madison's computer systems appeared to be hacked last night. Officials said it was similar to what other cities went through, soon
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after they had police-involved shootings like the one that killed Tony Robinson Friday night.

Dane County Emergency Management officials said Madison's computers started getting a high volume of Internet activity late yesterday, consistent with an outside attack.

Madison Police said it had intermittent computer problems for about an hour. The city's official Web site was down for several hours. County officials said the cyber-attack affected Web-based connections to city government -- plus mobile data used by law enforcement, fire departments, and emergency agencies throughout Dane County. The popular Apostle Island ice caves are now closed for the season. More than 36,000 people made the

					hike to see the spectacle but the mild weather has increased the chances for unsafe ice for the walk out as well as falling columns of ice inside the caves.
Alleged killer remains in an Indiana jail	News	3/11/15	6a,7a,8a,	1:30	Ashlee Martinson remains in an Indiana jail without bond after the 17-year old refused to waive extradition to Wisconsin. The teen was in court yesterday, held on two charges of first degree intentional homicide and three felony counts of false imprisonment in the deaths of her mother, 40-year old Jennifer Ayers and stepfather, 37-year old Thomas Ayers last Saturday at their home in the town of Piehl. The Oneida county medical examiner said the scene was horrific. The criminal complaint states Martinson shot her step father and stabbed her mother to death. Before fleeing the scene she

locked her three younger sisters in a bedroom. Martinson is back in court April 8<sup>th</sup>. Her boyfriend, 22-year old Ryan Sisco who was travelling with Martinson is jailed on a probation hold on a half million dollar bond but is not a suspect in the case. A Dane County judge will hear arguments from several Wisconsin unions next week challenging the new right to work law in the state. A lawsuit seeking a temporary injunction was filed yesterday claiming the measure amounts to an unconstitutional taking of their property without just compensation and enforcing it would cause them irreparable harm. They're also asking implementation of the law be blocked permanently. Both Governor Scott Walker and Attorney General Brad

					Schimel are confident the law will be upheld. The hearing is next Thursday. About 4500 Wisconsin Public Service customers lost power in the Oneida and Vilas counties yesterday afternoon when the heavy melting snow dropped a tree on a power line. The outage lasted about an hour.
Protest in Madison over shooting.	News	3/11/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>It could be four weeks or longer before a 17-year-old girl returns to Wisconsin to face charges she killed her mother and stepfather.</p> <p>Ashlee Martinson refused to waive extradition yesterday at a hearing in Boone County, Indiana. She'll be in jail there without bond, until a more detailed extradition hearing can take place. Prosecutors said Martinson shot 37-year-old Thomas Ayres and stabbed 40-year-old Jennifer Ayres Saturday at</p>

their home northeast of Rhinelander. Officials said Ashlee then locked her three younger sisters in a closet before she and her boyfriend fled. They were arrested later northwest of Indianapolis. She's back in court April 8<sup>th</sup>.

Another major protest in Madison today over the police shooting death of an unarmed bi-racial man.

Organizers asked school students to leave classes -- like hundreds did Monday when 15-hundred people gathered at the State Capitol. They're calling for justice in the wake of last Friday night's confrontation in which Madison officer Matt Kenny shot 19-year-old Tony Robinson, after reports he weaved through traffic and assaulted a person. At least one poll shows Governor Scott Walker's job approval rating is slipping

					among Wisconsin voters. An automated poll by a Democratic-leaning firm gives the Republican Walker a 43-percent approval rating among one-thousand-71 registered voters -- with 52-percent disapproving of the job he's doing for state residents. Marquette pollster Charles Franklin says the governor is well below his approval ratings from last year -- before he won re-election and became much more aggressive in pursuing a possible run for the White House next year.
More charges pending on Forrest Co. drug investigation	News	3/12/15	6a,7a,8a,	1:30	More charges are pending in the ongoing undercover drug investigation in Forest County. The Sheriff's department and North Central Drug Enforcement Group last week arrested a dozen people, several appearing in court yesterday. Court records

allege they sold oxycodone and Percocet to undercover officers on numerous occasions. 53-year old Laurie Olds of Crandon faces 12 felony drug charges in the case including possession and manufacture with intent to deliver and maintaining a drug trafficking place. Others charged include Robert and Shayna McGeshick, Steven Tuckwab, Sidney Daniels, Casey Jacobson, Nathan LaBarge, Nicole Orr, Jacob McGeshick, Tiffany Miller, Brian Olds and Jennifer Renkas.

A senate committee debated the merits of a bill eliminating the 48-hour wait to buy a handgun in the state. Representative Mary Czaja said women or anyone needing to protect themselves should be able

to buy one. The Irma republican said background checks can be completed in as little as an hour and anyone who passes should be able to leave with a handgun. In her remarks to the Senate Judiciary Committee, Czaja said, many other items can be used as weapons with no waiting period, including steak knives or shotguns. The Assembly version of the bill received a public hearing last month.

Rapidly deteriorating conditions have ended use of most winter recreational trails across the North, many closing by noon today. The recreation trails in the Chequamegon/Nicolet national forest are already closed. Seasonal weight limits are also set to begin, if they haven't already, across many area highways

					beginning next week.
22 year old man not to be charged in recent killing	News	3/12/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>The man who fled with 17-year old Ashlee Martinson, charged in the death of her mother and step-father last weekend near Rhinelander, won't face charges. 22-year old Ryan Sisco will return to Wisconsin from Indiana where the two were arrested Monday. He was detained on a probation violation. Martinson has refused extradition and will be back in court in April for another hearing. Oneida County D-A Michael Schiek said he's preparing a request to Governor Scott Walker to order Martinson's return to Wisconsin if she isn't extradited next month. Indiana's governor would also have to endorse the move, if it gets to that point. She'll face two charges of first-degree intentional homicide and three counts</p>

of false imprisonment. A news conference yesterday afternoon offered little new information other than the fact Sisco wasn't going to be charged. Sheriff Grady Hartman and Captain Terry Hook said the ongoing investigation limits them from commenting on the case.

The mild temperatures and warm breezes have put an end to a lot of winter recreation as snowmobile trails have closed in many Northern parts of the state. The concern now turns to the fire danger as those winds, low humidities and above normal temps help dry things out. Western Wisconsin has already elevated their concerns with alerts for increased risk of fire.

The Powerball jackpot is up to 137-million dollars for Saturday night. Nobody

					won the top prize last night, In Mega Millions, the jackpot stands at 33-million dollars for tomorrow night.
Candlelight vigil held for recent murder victims	News	3/13/15	6a,7a,8a,	1:30	Dozens of people turned out for a candle light vigil last night to remember the victims of last weekend's double homicide in the town of Piehl. Thomas and Jennifer Ayers were found in their home Sunday. 17-year old Ashlee Martinson is charged with the killings and awaits extradition while in jail in Indiana. The weapons, purportedly used in the crime were found in the home. Tri-County Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault organized the event and has been authorized to receive donations for the three young children at home at the time of the crime. Martinson allegedly put the children, her sisters, in a bedroom and tied the

door closed. It was a nine year old that called 911 to report the incident. Tri-County is accepting monetary donations, toy and books for girls, aged 2 to 9. Clothing or other personal items cannot be accepted for the privacy and protection of the minor children.

Meanwhile, a 15-year old Wausau teen will be tried, for now, as an adult in a stabbing case last month. Dylan Yang is charged with first degree reckless homicide in the death of 13-year old Isaiah Powell in what authorities say was a gang fight. After prosecutors and the defense painted very different pictures of the events surrounding the stabbing, the court ruled there was enough evidence for a trial. Yang's attorney will still attempt to

					get the case into juvenile court. If not, the teen faces 60-years in prison if convicted as an adult.
Langlade officials make arrests	News	3/17/15	6a,7a,8a,	1:30	<p>Langlade county authorities arrest two people in connection with a crime spree including burglary and stolen vehicles. 37-year old Lisa Patten and 21-year old Colton Hancock were picked up yesterday after crashing their vehicle in a high speed chase. Firearms were discovered and DNA evidence is being investigated. The investigation began Saturday as the two tried to pass a counterfeit bill at a fast food restaurant in Antigo.</p> <p>Oneida County has its paperwork finished in the attempt to bring Ashlee Martinson back to Wisconsin. The DA's office</p>

completed the necessary forms yesterday, now needing the signatures of Governors Scott Walker and Mike Pence of Indiana, where the 17-year old remains in jail. She's charged in the murder of her mother and step-father earlier this month. The next court hearing is April 8<sup>th</sup>.

Despite some conflicting views in the Assembly and Senate how the state should approach the issue, lawmakers continue to work on crafting school accountability legislation both chambers can support. Lawmakers have been working on bills to help failing taxpayer-funded schools improve since before the session began. The Assembly pulled back proposed changes to its version of a school accountability bill last

					<p>week. No consensus was reached on the measure last year.</p> <p>The DNR suspended burning permits in 22 counties yesterday, as strong winds and dry conditions ushered in what is expected to be the state's first widespread risk of high to very high fire danger. No permits will be issued in the northwestern and southern half of the state. Residents are advised to check locally for additional burning restrictions.</p>
A higher speed limit is being considered for the state	News	3/17/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>A higher speed limit is among the items considered this afternoon with both houses of the Wisconsin Legislature in session. The Assembly is scheduled to act on a bill to raise speed limits on designated four-lanes to 70-miles-an-hour, up from the</p>

current 65. The transportation committee in the lower house approved the change earlier this month -- but it dropped an option for a lower speed for commercial vehicles.

Meanwhile, the Senate considers a bill that would not give out school report cards for this spring's new statewide achievement test. The exam is tied to the Common Core education standards -- and with the future of those standards at issue, many Republicans say schools should get a different test next year.

Also, concerns were raised about the way the new Badger Exam was implemented. The bill would prevent schools and teachers from being evaluated on the state exam until 2016. Senators also consider bills to ban micro-beads, a key

exfoliant in soaps and toothpaste -- and allow liquor-and-grocery stores to provide small free samples of hard booze, just like they can do now for beer-and-wine.

It's getting dry in Wisconsin's brushes and woodlands.

The D-N-R says burning permits have been suspended in 22 counties where dry conditions and strong winds have increased the risk of wild-fires. In some places, the morning dew and the just-melted snow have masked what's considered a high fire danger. A dozen counties in the southwest quarter of the state and about 30 others stretching from northwest Wisconsin to the southeast have high fire dangers.

Rural home destroyed by fire	News	3/18/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	A rural Rhinelander home was destroyed by fire yesterday. Newbold

firefighters were dispatched shortly after 2 to the house on Estelle Drive, off Lake Mildred Road. Automatic alarms notified officials as no one was home at the time. The cause remains underdetermined. The Red Cross is helping the family of four with emergency housing, food and clothing needs.

Governor Scott Walker's new digital communications consultant, Liz Mair, was on the job less than a day when it was discovered some tweets she made offended the very voters the potential presidential candidate needs to win Iowa's Caucuses. She's been ridiculed for bashing the state of Iowa and its important role in the nominating process and other issues. She resigned

last night.

State lawmakers were busy in Madison yesterday. The Senate has passed a bill which places restrictions on the manufacture and sale of personal care products containing plastic mircobeads. The tiny plastic beads can wreak havoc in the environment. The state Assembly signed off on legislation allowing for speed limits of up to 70 miles an hour on Wisconsin interstates. The bill gives the state Department of Transportation the authority to up the speed limit on roads, if it believes the change will not impact safety.

Construction begins next week on improvements to Ministry Health Care's Rhinelander Clinic. Plans include a new registration and waiting area, patient

					exam rooms and closer stairs to the second floor. Renovations to the parking lot will add 36 new spaces. Work is expected to be complete in December.
Alleged murder suspect remains in an Indiana jail	News	3/19/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	As 17-year old Ashlee Martinson sits in jail awaiting extradition to Wisconsin from Indiana, her boyfriend is headed back to Lincoln County. 22-year old Ryan Sisco, who fled with Martinson earlier this month after she allegedly killed her parents, is coming back for violating terms of his probation. He's not implicated in the homicides. Martinson faces two counts of first degree intentional homicide and three counts of false imprisonment in the deaths of her mother and stepfather, Jennifer and Thomas Ayers, March 7th. The Great Lakes Inter-Tribal

Council opposes a proposed constitutional amendment changing the way the chief justice of the state supreme court is chosen. The question comes to voters in the April 7<sup>th</sup> election. The most senior sitting justice heads up the high court. The proposal calls for the seven justices to elect a new leader every two years. It also sets a mandatory 75 year old retirement age. The council, representing each tribal government in the state, said in a news release they oppose the plan because it's worked well for over a century and lawmakers want the change to reflect the political balance of the court.

Legislation targeting cyberstalking is headed to Governor Walker's desk.

					The measure would allow judges to issue restraining orders against people in other states. Sponsors said it will strengthen legal protections for victims . . . and empowers law enforcement officers and courts to extend protections to victims from abusers outside the state. The bill passed the Assembly last month and approved by the Senate Tuesday.
Mosinee man could get new trial	News	3/19/15	12p,5p	1:30	A state appeals court says the former Mosinee girls' basketball coach should get a new trial on a charge of using a computer device to facilitate a sex crime. The Third District Appellate Court in Wausau threw out a jury conviction yesterday against 58-year-old Rory McKellips. He was charged after a girls' player at Athens High School told police he had sexual

contact with her in 2011 at his Mosinee home. A Marathon County jury found McKellips innocent of sexual assault and exposure, but convicted him of using a computer for a sex crime. He was later sentenced to ten years in prison. McKellips denied the girl's sexual assault allegations in his trial testimony, but admitted buying a pre-paid cellphone for the girl to use. The appellate court said the trial judge should have not asked jurors to determine whether the flip-phone was a legal computer device. Instead, the court said Judge Mike Moran should have asked jurors whether the alleged uses of the flip-phone constituted communications through a computerized system. Dane County Circuit Judge

					William Foust is considering a temporary injunction to halt Wisconsin's new right to work law. Two local unions and the AFLCIO filed the suit soon after the measure was signed into law. Governor Scott Walker is in South Carolina today, site of the nation's third presidential primary. He's scheduled to address fund raisers for the Republican Party today and tomorrow and meet with Governor Nikki Haley. Walker's had positive reviews in his first pre-presidential appearances in Iowa and New Hampshire.
Dane Co. judge rules on right to work law	News	3/20/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Dane County Circuit Judge William Foust yesterday rejected a request by three unions to grant a temporary injunction blocking the new right-to-work law. The law remains in effect while the lawsuit proceeds. The unions, including the

Wisconsin AFL-CIO, say the law amounts to an unconstitutional seizure of their property because it allows workers who don't pay union dues to still receive union benefits. State attorneys say it is constitutional since it technically doesn't take any money out of union coffers.

New numbers from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics show Wisconsin losing ground nationally when it comes to job creation. Wisconsin had the 38th slowest private sector job growth in the nation, for the year ending in September...falling from 31st in a similar report three months ago. The figures show an increase of about 1.1 percent compared to the national increase of 2.3 percent. Democrats were

quick to criticize the numbers as a sign the national economic recovery is passing Wisconsin by. Governor Scott Walker's administration pointed out more recent jobs numbers show Wisconsin's unemployment rate fell to its lowest level since July of 2008.

If you have an extra \$25,000 laying around, you could name a sports complex. That's what Wausau is doing at their new facility. Featuring 15 soccer fields, the complex was built on the old Holtz-Krause landfill and officials said it's a five year contract. Each individual field also includes naming rights for costs between \$1000 and \$4000. The sale begins at the end of the month.

People attend forum in Wausau after a recent killing	News	3/20/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>About 70 people attended a forum in Wausau last night on keeping kids safe in the wake of a gang-related stabbing death three weeks ago. Police and school officials spelled out what they do to protect young people -- but they said parents must do their part, as well. Police said the incident began when rival gang members argued with each other on Facebook -- and a 19-year-old woman then drove seven boys to a fight where a 15-year-old boy was waiting with a knife.</p> <p>Thirteen-year-old Isaiah Powell was killed. At last night's community forum, parents were told to get involved with their children's lives by knowing what they do -- who they associate with -- and what they post</p>
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online. Wisconsin anglers forward to trolling this spring will probably have to wait awhile. A new rule allowing trolling on all of Wisconsin's inland waters probably won't be ready in time for the season's Opening Day May 2nd. The Legislature is still in the process of reviewing the rule -- approved by the Natural Resources Board last May. It allows trolling on lakes throughout 17 counties where the practice has been fully-or-partially banned. It appears the rule will be implemented in mid-to-late May at the earliest. Once it takes effect, trolling will be limited to one line per angler -- and two lines per boat. In the other 55 counties, three lines per angler are allowed. The D-N-R Board agreed the new policy should be reviewed

					every three years to keep it in effect.
Ruling on abortion cases	News	3/21/15	6a,7a,8a,	1:30	A federal district judge struck down a Wisconsin law requiring doctors who perform abortions to have admitting privileges at a nearby hospital. In the decision released late Friday, Judge William Conley found the law unconstitutional and issued a permanent injunction against its enforcement. Conley wrote the law is "a solution in search of a problem, unless that problem is access to abortion itself." Sponsors of the measure argued it is needed to protect the continuity of care for women seeking an abortion, in the event complications arose during the procedure requiring hospitalization. Opponents of the bill, including Planned Parenthood,

applauded the decision, saying the ruling is “a victory for the women of Wisconsin who can continue to access safe, legal abortion without government interference.” The White Lake School District is facing a nearly half-million dollar budget deficit and is hard at work promoting the need for a referendum, conducting another public meeting on the proposal over the weekend. On the April 7<sup>th</sup> ballot is a request for \$300,000 a year for five years to help offset the loss of state funding and, in essence, keep the district in business. This is the third attempt in less than a year. The district website contains more information and administrators encourage people with questions to contact them.

Sam Dekker scored 17

					points to lead four Wisconsin players in double figures, and the No. 1-seeded Badgers are headed back to the Sweet 16 after defeating Oregon 72-65 in the NCAA Tournament last night.
Some schools closed around the state after a heavy snowfall	News	3/21/15	12p,5p	1:30	<p>More than 20 school districts in southwest Wisconsin closed today, after the region got up to a foot of snow since yesterday. Much of it is already melting -- but that didn't prevent buses and youngsters from having to deal with the white stuff this morning. Platteville, Richland Center, and Prairie du Chien are among the largest communities where schools were closed.</p> <p>Early voting begins today for Wisconsin's spring general elections. Voters can use the absentee process to cast their ballots at local clerks' offices on</p>

weekdays through the end of next week. Outside of some hot local contests, the spring elections have not attracted much statewide attention.

Wisconsin taxpayers won't have to pick up the tab for Governor Scott Walker's trip to Israel this spring. His national political group Our American Revival said it would be a political trip -- not an official trip as governor. There was talk a few weeks ago the Republican Walker would arrange a trade mission to Israel -- just like he did to London a few weeks ago.

He also has a state-funded trade mission scheduled next month to France, Germany, and Spain.

Walker has been trying to bone-up on foreign affairs as part of his potential White House candidacy for next year.

					The Powerball jackpot was won for the second time in three drawings. A ticket sold in Tennessee matched all the numbers to win 50-million dollars Saturday night. In Mega Millions, the top prize is 59-million for tomorrow night.
Wisconsin voters will not have to show an id card	News	3/24/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	Wisconsin voters will not have to show a government-issued photo ID when they head to the polls April 7, despite a decision by the US Supreme Court not to hear a challenge to the state's long stalled Voter ID law. Yesterday's decision means the law will be allowed to go into effect, but Attorney General Brad Schimel because absentee ballots have already gone out for the spring elections, the law cannot be implemented next month. Officials with the state <a href="#">Government Accountability Board</a> said

the earliest they expect voters in a statewide election will be required to show a photo ID will be for the spring primary next year.

School superintendents from northern Wisconsin urged lawmakers to restore K-12 funding, during a public hearing yesterday in Rice Lake by the legislature's budget panel. Governor Scott Walker's proposed budget cuts some \$127 million dollars in public school funding next year. Administrators echoed the same theme of fiscal responsibility while juggling expenses and cutting millions from their budgets that included staff and programs, all while still facing deficits. They urged the committee to make a recommendation in the best interest of students.

					A 29-year-old Rhinelander woman was sentenced to 7 1/2 years in federal prison for possessing a gun and ammunition as a convicted felon. Bonnie T. Wolff was charged after she sold a loaded rifle to undercover officers last August and admitted she stole it. U.S. District Judge William Conley ordered Wolff to spend three years on probation after she is released from prison.
State taxpayers could pay more in taxes	News	3/24/15	12p,5p	1:30	The average Wisconsin homeowner could pay up to 80-dollars more in property taxes, under a G-O-P plan ending taxes on certain business equipment. Hazelhurst Senator Tom Tiffany and Stratford Representative Bob Kulp asked their colleagues to sign onto their measure. The non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau said it would

give businesses a statewide tax break of 270-million dollars a year -- which homeowners would have to pick up unless government services are cut.

A former Wausau religion teacher and soccer coach pleaded guilty to reduced charges of possessing child pornography. Fifty-two year old Michael Switalski struck a plea deal with Marathon County prosecutors that convicted him of ten counts of child-porn possession. Twenty-two similar charges were dropped -- but they'll be considered when Switalski is sentenced on June 15th.

He resigned from Wausau Newman Catholic High School a few weeks after he was arrested last spring. He coached the boys' soccer team at Newman for 20 years.

The Senate Judiciary

					<p>Committee is listening to what people think about allowing off duty and retired police officers to carry guns in schools. Current law prohibits firearms within a thousand feet of school grounds, the exception being on duty officers. A bi-partisan group of lawmakers wants to add the others.</p> <p>Winter is about to make a brief return as winter weather advisories begin tonight for west central Wisconsin then early tomorrow for central, north central, and east central areas. In most cases, sleet and freezing rain are expected to create a glaze on the roadways before 1-to-4 inches of snow cover it up.</p>
State trooper killed in Wisconsin	News	3/25/15	6a,7a,8a,	130	We're expecting to learn more this morning about the death of a Wisconsin State Trooper and a bank

robbery suspect in Fond du Lac, yesterday. At a news conference last night officials said the officer was following a vehicle matching the description of the suspect around 5:30. Gunfire was exchanged and both died. Another man was shot and killed earlier in the day in an apparent carjacking by the suspect. The names have not yet been released.

A former Antigo man faces felony child sexual assault charges after having sex with an underage teen in Langlade County. 23-year old Omar Luera, who recently moved to California, was arrested last week, hiding in the home of the victim. He allegedly met the teen online. He's also charged with using a computer to facilitate a child sex crime and is back

					<p>in court April 13<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>The Waupaca County Sheriff's department reports a car rear-ended a school bus as it stopped to pick up students shortly after seven yesterday morning on Hwy 54, west of New London. None of the students were hurt but the car river was trapped and later flown to an Appleton hospital with serious injuries.</p> <p>The fire danger is at a moderate level over much of the area and officials are looking into what caused a brush fire yesterday afternoon near Harshaw Road and Highway K, west of Rhinelander. Cassian volunteers and the Oneida County Sheriff's department responded to the call shortly after two. The fire was quickly contained.</p>
State trooper who was killed	News	3/25/15	12p,5p	1:30	Trevor Casper of Kiel is the

is identified

state trooper killed by a suspected bank robber yesterday, as both died in an exchange of gunfire in Fond du Lac. The Wisconsin Professional Police Association confirmed the trooper's identity this morning on its Facebook page. He was among three people who died in a crime spree that spanned about 150 miles through eastern Wisconsin.

Authorities said the suspect robbed a bank in Wausaukee, stole a pick-up truck, dumped it nearby where he car-jacked another vehicle and killed the driver, then drove to Fond du Lac where Casper caught him and both later died by gunfire. He just graduated from the training academy in December. A 17-year-old Wausau girl will spend 30 days in juvenile detention and two

years on probation, after she was found delinquent in an S-U-V crash that killed two young girls. Authorities said the girl did not have a driver's license when she and nine others jammed into an S-U-V last August to go on a picnic at the Eau Claire Dells park. Their vehicle lost control and rolled over several times on Highway 52, about 12 miles northeast of Wausau. People in Wisconsin's mid-section woke up to something they haven't seen in a while -- snow. Tomahawk had four-inches on the ground as of seven this morning. Most of the northern two-thirds of Wisconsin got one to three-and-a-half inches. Expect near normal temperatures for a day then a burst of cold is expected on Saturday, when it could get down to 10-above in places

					like Rhinelander.
Gov. Walker formally demands the extradition of an alleged murder suspect	News	3/26/15	6a,7a,8a,	1:30	<p>Governor Scott Walker formally demanded the extradition of 17-year old Ashlee Martinson, sitting in an Indiana jail, held in the double homicide of her mother and step father. The request is a formality to Indiana Governor Mike Pence to bring the girl back to Wisconsin to face trial in the deaths of Jennifer and Thomas Ayers at their rural Piehl home on March 7<sup>th</sup>. She'll remain in jail until her court hearing April 8<sup>th</sup> on the request.</p> <p>As investigators continue working to piece together the events that led up to a shootout in Fond du Lac. The former colleagues of a slain state trooper say he did everything he was supposed to leading up to the fatal confrontation. Trooper Trevor Casper was</p>

killed Tuesday night after following a car matching the description of one tied to a bank robbery in Wausauke. State Patrol Lieutenant Colonel Brian Rahn says Casper's reaction was textbook. The suspect killed in the shootout was Steven Timothy Snyder, who video confirmed was responsible for a bank robbery in Wausauke earlier in the day Tuesday. Thomas Christ of Wausauke was also shot and killed that afternoon, after an encounter with Snyder near Christ's property.

A Wausau student claimed the top prize in a statewide student cabbage growing contest. Riley Olbrantz weighed in his cabbage at 28.6 pounds in the Bonnie Plants 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Cabbage Program. Department of

					Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Secretary Ben Brancel announced the winner yesterday.
Law officers express condolences to slain officer	News	3/26/15	12p,5p	1:30	Law enforcement officers throughout the nation have expressed condolences to the family of Trevor Casper. The 21-year-old state trooper from Kiel was in his first day of solo patrol, when he was killed in a shootout in Fond du Lac late Tuesday. Officers around the state say they're taking the loss hard -- because they know it could be them sometime. Captain Clay Schulz of the Everest Metro police force near Wausau says the grief is something most everyday people don't understand. Funeral arrangements are pending for Casper, who died along with suspected murderer and bank robber Steven Snyder of suburban Detroit.

Almost half of Wisconsin's 72 counties saw their populations go down during the year ending last July. The U.S Census Bureau said Adams County had the largest percentage decline in the Badger State, losing one-point-four percent of its residents. Menominee County, home of the Indian tribe that carries its name, had the largest percentage growth in its one-year population at three-point-two percent. Oneida, Vilas, Langlade and Lincoln counties all saw drops of less than a percent.

For the third time in two weeks, somebody beat astronomical odds to win the Powerball jackpot. A ticket sold in New Jersey won last night's 40-million dollar prize. It was the second straight drawing in which a player beat odds of one-in-175-million to

					match all five regular numbers drawn, plus the Powerball. It's happened in three of the last four drawings. In Mega Millions, the top prize is also at its minimum of 15-million for tomorrow night.
DNR wants to put a bag limit for walleyes on some northern lakes	News	3/27/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	The DNR wants to put permanent bag limits in place for walleye on some northern Wisconsin lakes. Those limits, sometimes at zero or one fish, are set each year based on the estimated impact of the off reservation harvest by the six Chippewa Tribes in the ceded territory, established by treaties over a century ago. However, Joe Hennessy with the DNR's fisheries department says many anglers are not fond of the changing restrictions each year and want more certainty ahead of time. The DNR is proposing permanent limits for lakes

and rivers in the region that would allow anglers to three fish a day, along with setting some size restrictions. The Natural Resources Board will take up the issue at its meeting next month. If approved, the limits would take effect when the fishing season opens in May.

A 64-year old former Forest County Jail worker faces time where he worked. Melvin Donek of Argonne is charged with one felony for misconduct and acting in excess of his authority and three misdemeanors in a case where he's accused of giving stolen phone cards to an inmate, theft, possessing stolen property and resisting an officer. He pleaded not guilty yesterday, waived his preliminary hearing and will be back in court May 6th.

And in sports, Sam Dekker

					scored a career-high 23 points, Frank Kaminsky added 19 and top-seeded Wisconsin rallied in the final 10 minutes to hold off North Carolina 79-72 last night and advance to the elite eight of the NCAA Tournament. They face second ranked Arizona Saturday.
Madison police bracing for an outcome.	News	3/27/15	12p,5p	1:30	Police and protesters in Madison are getting ready for what might happen when the district attorney announces a decision on charges in the police shooting of Tony Robinson. State Justice officials are meeting today with Dane County D-A Ismael Ozanne, to present the state's investigative reports into the March 6th incident. The attorney general has said his agency would not make a recommendation on charges. That's Ozanne's

call -- and Madison Police Chief Mike Koval says he'd like a 24-hour notice of that announcement.

Wisconsin third-through-eighth graders might have to wait a little longer to take their state achievement tests. The new Badger Exam, which is tied to the Common Core education standards, was supposed to be ready to be administered on Monday.

But the start date has been moved up to April 13th, due to technical glitches in delivering the online exams. The Ho-Chunk Nation is the latest to announce a higher minimum wage for its employees. The tribe will start paying at least 10-dollars-an-hour in July, affecting about 35-hundred people employed by the tribe and its businesses. It comes just over a month after Walmart announced

					<p>a hike in its minimum wage to nine-dollars an hour starting next Wednesday, and 10-dollars next February.</p> <p>Spring was supposed to have sprung a week ago – but it was winter in northern Wisconsin. It was three-below-zero this morning at Land O'Lakes. Tomahawk had minus-two.</p> <p>Forecasters say it's supposed to be 40 by tomorrow afternoon and back around 50 next week.</p>
Gov. Walkers budget could Affect the dnr.	News	3/30/15	6a,7a,8a,	1:30	Controversial provisions in Governor Scott Walker's proposed state budget could impact the future direction of the DNR. The Republican governor's 2015-'17 spending plan would make the seven member Natural Resources Board – which currently has the authority to set DNR policy – a purely advisory body. The change is

opposed by a number of lawmakers, the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and Wisconsin Conservation Congress. Critics maintain stripping the board of its policy setting authority would result in a decision-making process that is less visible and open to the public.

Wisconsin voters will decide April 7 whether to amend the state constitution to let state Supreme Court justices choose their leader. Approval almost certainly would mean the court's conservative majority will strip long-time Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson of her title. Abrahamson and her close friend, Justice Ann Walsh Bradley, are generally seen as the court's liberal minority and have been openly feuding with the conservative justices for years. The

					Wisconsin Constitution says the justice with the most seniority is automatically chief, serving as lead administrator for the state court system. The chief can assign any judge or justice to work any case below the Supreme Court, designate and assign reserve judges and schedule oral arguments before the high court, among other duties. Republicans who control the Legislature crafted a constitutional amendment allowing the justices to vote who should serve as chief. Opponents call it a political power grab while Republican lawmakers say the amendment is meant to inject a dose of democracy into the high court.
Law officers around the state attend funeral of slain officer	News	3/30/15	12p,5p	1:30	Law enforcement from throughout the nation attended yesterday's funeral service in Kiel for

State Patrol officer Trevor Casper. The 21-year-old was on his first day of solo patrol last Tuesday, when he and alleged bank robber Steven Snyder died in a shootout in Fond du Lac. Over a-thousand people attended the service at Kiel High School, where Casper graduated in 2011. State Patrol Captain Anthony Burrell called the state's youngest trooper a hero with a "servant's heart" who was eager to get out on the road. Casper was buried in a private service today.

The body of an ice fisherman was pulled from Perch Lake in Bayfield County yesterday. Rescuers found 77-year-old Louis Bickel of Mason was found in 18-feet of water around ten o'clock yesterday morning. Saturday night, his wife told

Sheriff's deputies he had not returned home after he went fishing earlier in the day. Deputies found Bickel's vehicle -- and they saw a hole in the ice about 50-yards from the shore.

The D-N-R and Conservation Congress have teamed up to encourage more high school students to get involved in resource conservation management. Both groups started a Youth Conservation Congress, to encourage members to learn about the outdoors and natural resource issues. D-N-R liaison Kari Lee-Zimmerman says the youngsters receiving mentoring. They'll also help both the D-N-R and the advisory Conservation Congress with volunteer projects like fish-tagging and surveys. Current participants do some of the

					same functions as the more established Congress members.
Murder conviction of Jeffry Trevino will stand	News	3/31/15	6a,7a,8a	1:30	<p>The murder conviction of Jeffery Trevino will stand. The 41-year old St. Paul man was found guilty of killing his wife, 30-year old Kira Steger of Wausau in February of 2013. Her body was discovered in the Mississippi River three months later. The Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled yesterday the evidence at trial supported the conviction.</p> <p>Since 2013 Governor Scott Walker has said he was in favor of offering immigrants a way to become citizens. Now he's changing his view on immigration policy saying he does not support amnesty. He told reporters in Central Wisconsin yesterday his recent trip to</p>

the Mexican border reinforced the belief the issue is about safety, security and national sovereignty and that the federal government needs to, in his words, "fundamentally secure the border". He said while in Texas he learned international criminal organizations are not only bringing people over the border, but drugs and firearms as well on a routine basis. He said immigration issues not only affect border states, but the rest of the country as well.

As some cities in Wisconsin grapple with how to handle the growing popularity of rideshare services, state lawmakers are proposing statewide standards for the new companies. A bill introduced yesterday would require rideshare

					services, which typically connect drivers and customers through mobile phone applications, to apply for a state license and pay an annual \$5,000 fee. Drivers, who operate as independent contractors, would have to pass background checks, operate vehicles meeting strict safety regulations, and carry at least \$1 million in commercial insurance.
Recent victim of crime spree dies	News	3/31/2015	12p,5p	1:30	Thomas Christ will be buried today. He's the Marinette County farmer who was reportedly killed by Steven Snyder during a crime spree a week ago. Authorities said Snyder robbed a bank in that community last Tuesday afternoon, stole an employee's truck and left it near Wausaukee where Christ's body was found close by. Investigators believe Snyder killed Christ to car-jack the victim's car--

which he drove to Fond du Lac where state trooper Trevor Casper found it.

Snyder and the officer ended up in a shootout in which they both died.

Casper, was buried yesterday in his hometown of Kiel.

Top V-A officials promise more public disclosure of its problems at the Tomah Medical Center -- and more protections for workers who expose those problems. V-A Health Undersecretary Carolyn Clancy and assistant inspector general John Daigh were again put on the hot seat at a hearing in Tomah on the over-prescribing of painkillers, and punishments for workers who exposed it. At least six veterans died from drug overdoses in the past decade under Tomah V-A Chief-of-Staff David Houlihan. WI Senator

Tammy Baldwin called them examples of a larger problem "in desperate need of solutions."

Frank Kaminsky needs a bigger trophy case, the WI badger center is the Big Ten player of the year, and today was the only one to be unanimously voted to the AP All-American team.[2](#). The selection also makes him the second consensus All-American at UW in 70 years. They meet Kentucky in the NCAA semi finals Saturday night.