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ON THE COVER

The Village of Thiensville recently celebrated the official opening of its new Port Washington State Bank River Stage in Village Park. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in conjunction with the first-annual Chillin' in the 'Ville chili and mac 'n cheese event that included music and more as a fundraiser for the Village Park Reimagined project. (read more on pg. 30).



MEQUON · THIENSVILLE TODAY

Mequon-Thiensville Today is a community magazine providing useful information about the City of Mequon and the Village of Thiensville with news and feature stories about the people, businesses, places and events that make our communities very special places to live, work and do business.

Mequon-Thiensville Today is jointly published three times per year by the City of Mequon, the Village of Thiensville and the Mequon-Thiensville School District. The magazine receives additional support from Concordia University Wisconsin, Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) and local advertisers.

Mequon-Thiensville Today welcomes story ideas, content suggestions and advertising inquiries that are compatible with our editorial mission, advertisement criteria and other publication standards. Paid articles are not accepted for publishing. Please email all inquiries and suggestions to info@M-Tmagazine.com.

Mequon-Thiensville Today is guided by a professional advisory committee comprised of representatives from the City of Mequon, the Village of Thiensville, the Mequon-Thiensville School District and residents from our respective communities.

Contributing writers: Jennifer Flierl (M-T School District), Gary Achterberg (Village of Thiensville), Lisa Liljegren (Concordia University), Justin Schoenemann (City of Mequon), Tony Tagliavia (MATC) and Barb Caprile (Caprile Marketing/Design).

Contributing photographers: Kristi Zach Photography, Andy LaFond and Gary Achterberg.

Design/Production: Caprile Marketing/Design

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ci.mequon.wi.us

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MEQUON-THIENSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

mtsd.k12.wi.us

Superintendent of Schools: Matthew Joynt

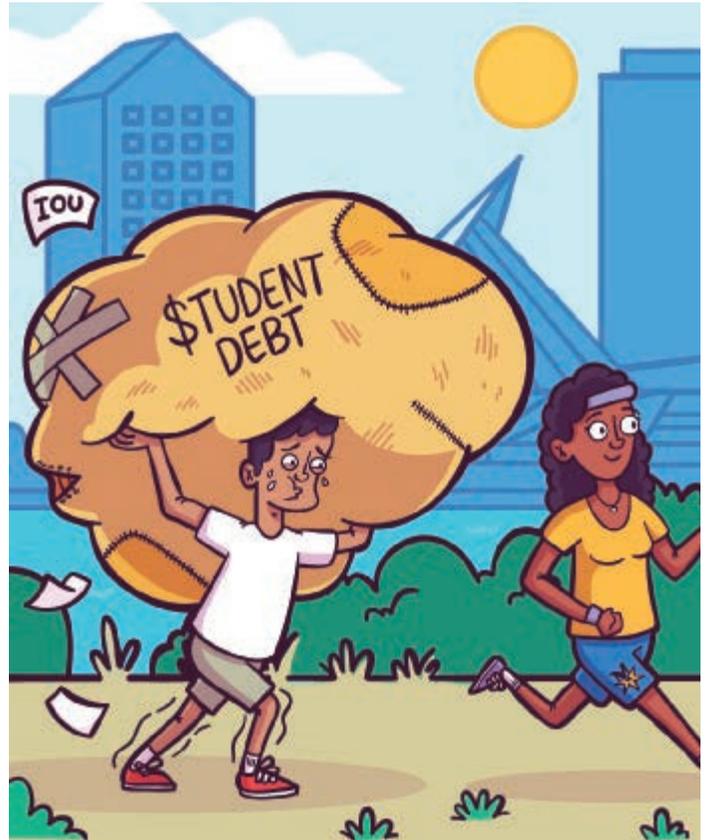
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The deadline for advertising in the February 2020 (spring) issue of **Mequon-Thiensville Today** is December 30 on a space-available basis. For advertising information, email info@M-Tmagazine.com or call (414) 215-7999.



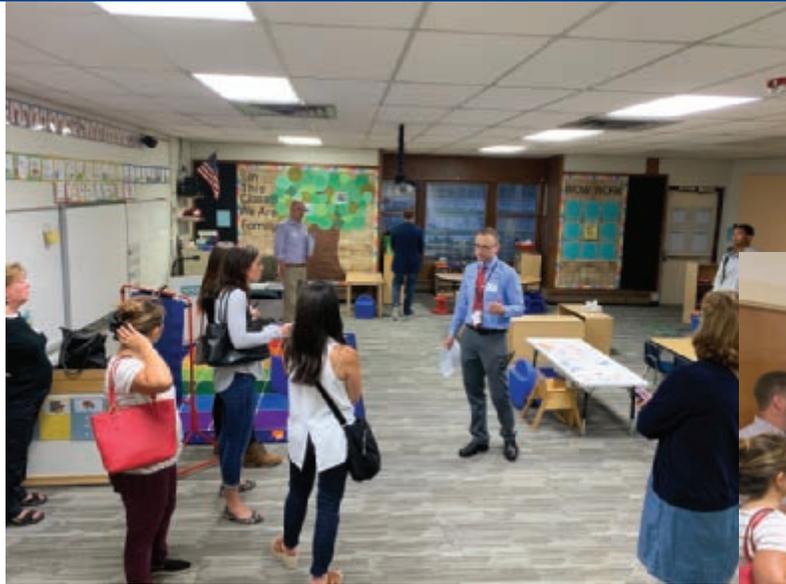
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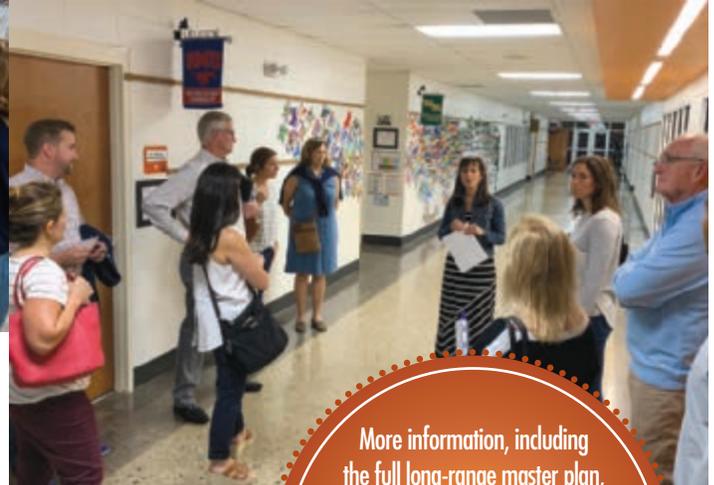
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Community Task Force members toured elementary school learning environments and facilities on September 18.

Pictured left: A tour of Donges Bay Elementary School led by Principal Christopher Gray.

Pictured below: A tour of Oriole Lane Elementary School led by Principal Mary Jo Tye.



ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY IN A SHARED VISION FOR ITS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMUNITY TASK FORCE CONVENES TO CONSIDER LONG-RANGE MASTER PLAN FOR FACILITIES

More information, including the full long-range master plan, community growth and enrollment reports, information about the task force, and a more detailed review of the District's processes is available at mtds.k12.wi.us/framework.

In the February and June editions of *Mequon-Thiensville Today*, the Mequon-Thiensville School District shared the launch and a progress report on the development of a long-range master plan for its facilities, called "Framework for Our Future."

This comprehensive 10-year framework provides MTSD and the school board with a strategic direction that aligns the District's current reality, projected future enrollment, educational vision, and the community's priorities.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

The long-range master plan began with an assessment of the general condition, capacity and utilization of the district's buildings. Because of investments made as a result of the 2014 referendum and the District's ongoing commitment to maintenance and upkeep, the overall condition of the District's buildings is above average. The report also recognizes the District's accomplishments in

the areas of safety, security and technology infrastructure.

The assessment identifies several facilities challenges, including inadequate classroom and support space to meet expected enrollment growth at the elementary level, and outdated classroom configurations that are not conducive to collaborative, student-centered teaching and learning. It also pointed to poor site circulation and traffic flow at all campuses.

ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

Monitoring student enrollment and estimating future enrollment trends are essential to school planning and represent a critical piece in developing a long-range plan. The long-range master plan was informed by enrollment projections by the Applied Population Lab (APL) and MDRoffers Consulting. Historical enrollment data, birth trends, the local housing market, residential growth and development, and demographic trends impacting enrollment were studied to

provide enrollment projections for the next 10 years.

In general, the projections indicate that enrollment will remain consistent at the middle school and high school levels over the next 10 years, while significant enrollment growth is projected at the elementary level in the near future.

"These projections confirmed what we've been seeing as we've watched our three elementary school populations grow," says Matthew Joynt, superintendent of schools. "This data points to our elementary schools being at or above capacity in the very near future."

POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

The long-range master plan identifies three potential strategies to resolve the District's elementary capacity challenges. The first option involves building additions at the elementary schools. The second option creates elementary capacity by moving the fifth grade from the elementary schools to



mtsd.k12.wi.us

the middle schools. The third option creates capacity at the elementary schools by shifting fourth and fifth grades to the middle schools and moving seventh and eighth grades to the high school campus.

The long-range master plan also explores opportunities to address safety, maintenance, flexible classroom configurations, and other challenges identified during the facilities assessment.

CHARTING A PATH FORWARD

Keeping with the District's history of engaging the community through ad-hoc committee structures to assist with District-wide initiatives and strategic planning, a Community Task Force began work this fall to review and consider the long-range master plan. The task force is charged with reviewing and considering facility challenges, establishing priorities, and making recommendations to the administration and board regarding facilities issues.

The task force is being co-chaired by two former school board presidents – Stephanie Clark and Peter Stone – and includes 17 community members who represent a diverse cross-section of the community. It is an independent entity comprising voices and perspectives from across Mequon and Thiensville.”

“We are honored to serve MTSD and the broader community in this important work,” reports task force co-chairs Clark and Stone, in a joint statement. “The task force takes its job very seriously and is committed to helping District leaders find an appropriate solution that serves our students, staff and broader community.”

Community members should watch for more information and opportunities to provide feedback in November.



Community Task Force members toured elementary school learning environments and facilities on September 18. Pictured above: A tour of Wilson Elementary School led by Principal Jocelyn Sulsberger.



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MEET YOUR NEW HOMESTEAD HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Homestead High School in the Mequon-Thiensville School District began the 2019-20 school year with a new administrative team.

- **Eric Ebert**, who assumed his role as interim principal in August, has been a mighty Highlander for two years, serving as an assistant principal.
- **Monique Porter** most recently served as a special education teacher at Homestead before being promoted to assistant principal.
- Fellow Assistant Principal **Chad Sovo** is no stranger to the MTSD community, having served as a 4th-grade teacher at Donges Bay Elementary School in MTSD until 2017 when he was hired as the assistant principal at Wisconsin Hills Middle School in the Elmbrook School District.

We recently sat down with Eric, Monique and Chad to talk about their leadership roles. Here is a portion of our Q & A with the Homestead High School administrative team.

Q: *While you all formerly had ties to Homestead and the Mequon-Thiensville School District, you are new to your respective roles. How does it feel now to be a part of this team at Homestead?*

Eric Ebert: In starting

my new role, I was really encouraged by all of the support I received from faculty and staff. Their words and actions, as well as positive attitudes in a time of transition, truly impacted me and really solidified how much I love this place. We have so many wonderful people around here who enjoy teaching and care deeply about this school.



Eric Ebert (right) is the interim Homestead High School principal.

Because of them, it is so much fun to come here every day and give your best for the kids. Our administrative team has been embraced by the whole school community and, while we may have a new look, we will work hard to carry on that tradition of belonging and excellence at Homestead.

Monique Porter: My transition from teacher to administrator has been smooth. Everyone has been so welcoming and supportive across the entire building at Homestead, as well as within the District. MTSD educators are truly like a family to me. I love being a part of MTSD. It is a blessing to be a part of such a great community!

Chad Sovo: It is a great privilege to serve the students and families that make up the MTSD community – it feels great! I have enjoyed meeting new families these past few weeks. I have found it especially meaningful to reconnect with former students.

Q: *Can you describe the different responsibilities of a high school administrative team? Who is responsible for what?*

CS: We are best described as a team. Although we have individual responsibilities, we provide support to one another, push each other's thinking, and find time to celebrate the many successes of our students, staff members and families. Generally speaking, the principal leads the school in teaching and learning, while the



Chad Sovo (right) greets a student.

assistant principals lead student management.

Q: *What do you love about working with high-school-aged students?*

EE: There is nothing quite like the energy of a high school when students and teachers are in the building focused on teaching and learning. It is so much fun to see the engagement and inquiry that takes place here on a daily basis. I have a passion for supporting students academically, socially, and emotionally and helping to give each of them the best possible experience over their high school careers. I also love collaborating with faculty and staff to set programming that helps prepare students for life beyond our school.

Q: *Do you have a favorite quote?*

MP: I've always loved the quote by Maya Angelou where she tells us, "If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude." I find it to be a good reminder of how much power we all have as individuals to affect change.

EE: I am a former social studies teacher, so I am often inspired by important historical figures. One quote by Abraham Lincoln that always resonates with me is, "Whatever you are, be a good one." *(continued)*



Monica Porter (center) has a great rapport with students.

NEW HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM CONTINUED

CS: I like Wayne Gretzky's quote, "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." In other words, you won't be successful unless you try.

Q. Many in the community may know that former high school principal Brett Bowers had a Twitter account highlighting some of the great things happening at Homestead. What's a community to do now?

CS: The community can still find Homestead updates, stories, photos and the occasional Angus the Highlander sighting on Twitter! Follow us on Twitter: @homestead_mtsd.

Q. Of the three of you, who do you think owns the most Highlander gear?

CS: Eric, without a doubt.

MP: Definitely Eric ... hands down!

EE: Yes. I love showing my Homestead pride as much as possible. It's a great time to be a Highlander!

CONTACT INFORMATION

MEQUON-THIENSVILLE
SCHOOL DISTRICT
mtsd.k12.wi.us

School District Offices

5000 W. Mequon Rd., Mequon
262.238.8500

Donges Bay Elementary School

2401 W. Donges Bay Rd., Mequon
262.238.7920

Oriole Lane Elementary School

12850 N. Oriole Ln., Mequon
262.238.4220

Wilson Elementary School

11001 N. Buntrock Ave., Mequon
262.238.4600

Lake Shore Middle School

11036 N. Range Line Rd., Mequon
262.238.7600

Steffen Middle School

6633 W. Steffen Dr., Mequon
262.238.4700

Homestead High School

5000 W. Mequon Rd., Mequon
262.238.5900

Department of Recreation

11040 Range Line Rd., Mequon
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INTRODUCING THE HUB AND THE T AT HOMESTEAD HIGH SCHOOL BY MOLLY LOUCKS

SPACES RECEIVE FACELIFT TO CREATE FLEXIBLE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Walking the halls of Homestead High School, it is common to see groups of students using the space beyond their classrooms to work individually or in groups on problems or prompts taped to the walls or written in glass marker on the windows. In modern approaches to learning and instruction, education is no longer confined to four walls with rows of desks. In this changing approach, students and teachers are mobile and are able to flexibly transition between large group instruction, individual work time, and small group collaborations. While the concept of modern learning may not be new to Homestead, dedicated space to foster this active collaboration can be hard to come by.

Thanks in part to a grant from the Mequon-Thiensville Education Foundation (MTEF), two of the most frequently used makeshift workspaces in Homestead were transformed this summer into true collaborative areas, ideal for student engagement and learning in motion.

Welcome to The Hub and The T.

The Hub refers to the common area at Homestead at a four-way intersection of hallways, located at the heart of the campus. In addition to a fresh coat of paint, removal of unnecessary lockers, and updated tile work across the open span of intersecting hallways, The Hub is now home to 22 permanent white boards and nine mobile tables that can be easily moved and configured in the space as needed.

The T is the common area at an intersection of hallways on the east side of the building. It has been given a similar update and fitted with eight new white boards, perfect for student collaboration. Grace Edwards and Lola Wojcik, sophomores in Jennifer Zortman's Algebra 2 class, both agree that the ability to access flexible learning environments is effective, especially during the extended periods that make up Homestead's block schedule.

"It's easier to learn when we're working with other people and we're up and moving around," says Edwards.

Because they are the users of these spaces, students were intentionally involved in the design of The Hub and The T. Last year, Kat Hustedde's Digital Art 2 class was commissioned to create logos for both spaces – with the principal as a client – to gain real-world design experience. Current senior Katie Dulle submitted designs that were selected as the best fit for both the spaces and the vision. James Valentino, class of 2019, worked to create the compass design that is featured in The Hub logo and is the inspiration for the tile work on the floor of the common space.

“Designing the floor for The Hub was a lot of fun,” shares Valentino, who is now a freshman at UW-Stout studying game design. “It’s really humbling that I had an opportunity to do something that will be an everyday sight for Homestead students for a really long time.”

The Hub was fully funded through an MTEF grant. The T was a gift from the MTEF Leave A Legacy campaign, which is collected annually from donors honoring the current graduating class.

“The Foundation is pleased to support modern learning environments, such as The Hub and The T, to facilitate inquiry-based learning and collaboration in our schools,” says MTEF President Cindy Anderson.

“The renovations of these learning spaces at Homestead complement the Inquiry and Collaboration Centers (ICCs) at all six MTSD schools,” explains Matthew Joynt, superintendent of schools. “We are excited to continue to foster and grow diverse learning opportunities across the Mequon-Thiensville School District.”

The T is the common area at an intersection of hallways on the east side of the high school building. The space has been fitted with eight new white boards, perfect for student collaboration.

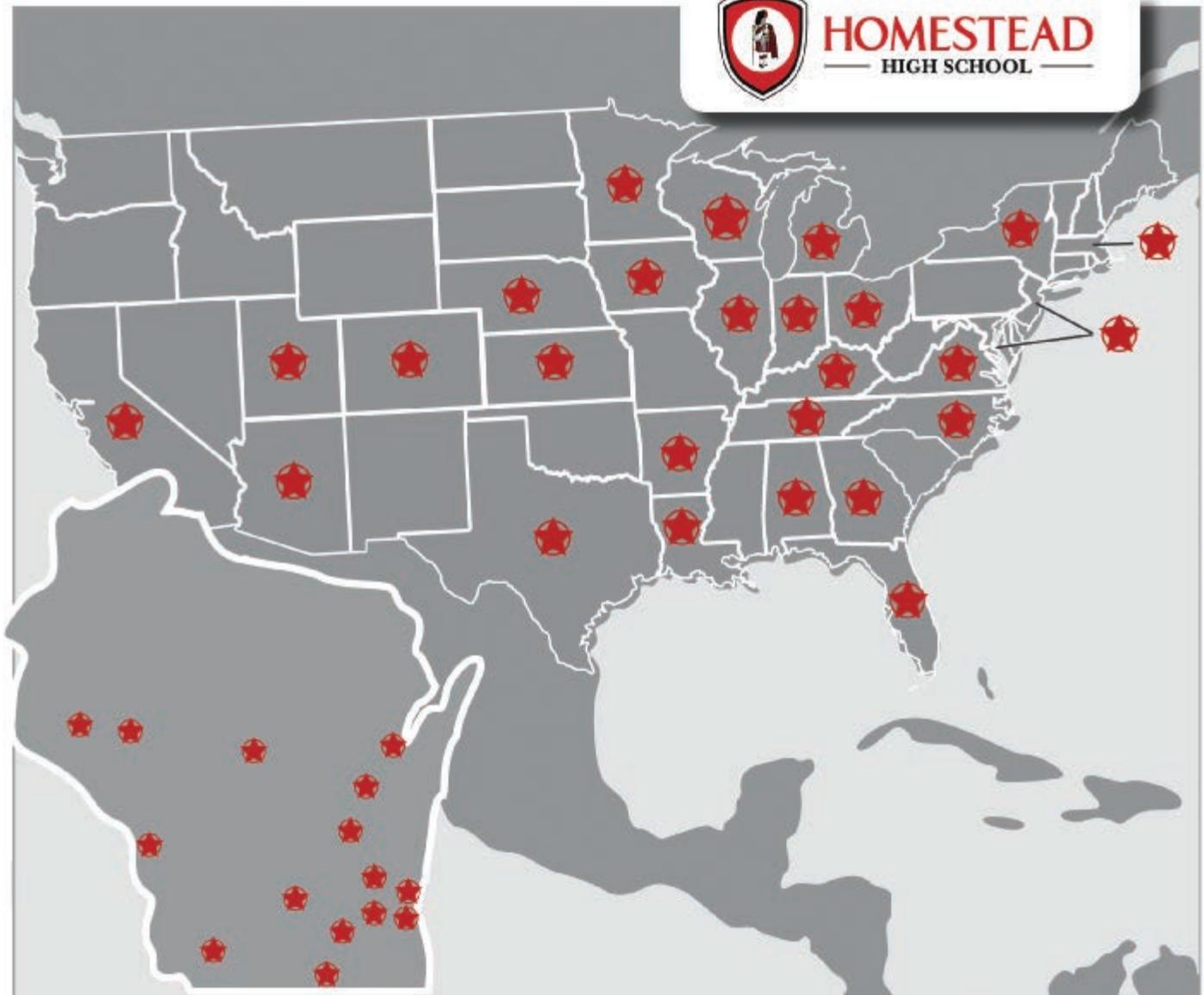


Students in Kat Hustedde's Digital Art 2 class were commissioned to create logos for The Hub and The T.





HOMESTEAD
HIGH SCHOOL



CLASS OF 2019

Ready to take on the world!

More than 90 percent of Homestead grads enroll in post-secondary education annually. The above map reflects where the students from the Class of 2019 are continuing their education this fall. Homestead graduates will make their mark on 26 states, the District of Columbia, and abroad. *Best of luck to the Class of 2019!*



347

GRADUATES
CLASS OF 2019

100%

GRADUATION
RATE

4-YEAR COLLEGE/
UNIVERSITY
2-YEAR COLLEGE/
TECHNICAL SCHOOL
WORKFORCE/
MILITARY/GAP YEAR/
OTHER

85%

7%

8%



MTEF EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

The Mequon-Thiensville Education Foundation is honored to name the following teachers as the 2019 Excellence in Teaching Award recipients. Each award winner received \$1,000 for their outstanding contributions and service to students.

- Kerry Etter: Donges Bay Elementary School-Grade 3
- Susan Gattoni: Steffen Middle School-Grade 6
- Dawn Pfaff, Homestead High School-Science
- Robin Schlei, Secondary School-Talented, Advanced and Gifted Coordinator

Photo above (from left to right): Robin Schlei, Susan Gattoni, Dawn Pfaff and Kerry Etter.



The Color Run, presented by the M-T Education Foundation, took place on Saturday, Sept. 7, the same day as Taste of Mequon.

During the run, runners got showered with safe, eco-friendly, plant-based, powdered color. All proceeds from the run benefitted M-T School District students.

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Children dress up as princesses and super heroes at some of the Library's special events.

FALL/WINTER PROGRAMS AT THE FRANK L. WEYENBERG LIBRARY

The Frank L. Weyenberg Library of Mequon-Thiensville offers a variety of fun and free programs for all ages throughout the year. Some of our upcoming events are listed below!

For more information, visit flwlib.org.

ADULT EVENTS

Mequon-Thiensville Community Book Club

Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, Jan. 21

The Frank L. Weyenberg Library and the Mequon-Thiensville Rec. Department offer a free monthly community book discussion the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday 1-O-1

The 3rd Wednesday of the month from 2-4 p.m.

Oct. 16, Nov. 20, Dec. 18

Is your device or laptop doing something strange? Are you having trouble with a program or app? Drop by our Wednesday 1-O-1 for up to 15 minutes of one-on-one help from a librarian. We can troubleshoot issues, explain features and more. Time slots are first-come, first-served.

Author JF Riordan • Oct. 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Join us for an evening presentation with Wisconsin author, JF Riordan. Riordan captures and magnifies the passing beauty of the ordinary and the extraordinary that lingers near the surface of daily life, whether it's an unexpected revelation from a trip to the

hardware store, a casual encounter with a tow-truck driver, the changing seasons, or a conversation with a store clerk grieving for a dog. This event is co-sponsored by Boswell Book Company.

An Evening with Mark Twain

Oct. 24 at 6 p.m.

Samuel Clemens, known by his pen name Mark Twain, was an American writer, humorist, entrepreneur, publisher and lecturer. He was lauded as the greatest humorist this country has produced and has been called 'the father of American literature.' Join us as we travel back in time with Mark Twain!

Fine Arts Event: Actress Leslie Goddard as Jacqueline Kennedy • Nov. 3 at 2 p.m.

Join us for a wonderful afternoon performance of Jackie Kennedy by actress Leslie Goddard. Goddard recreates Jackie's life as she tries to preserve her family's privacy, despite constant media onslaughts. Goddard reveals the presidential widow's great dedication to restoring the interior of the White House and showcasing the arts. In a climactic revelation, she recalls JFK's death and her decision to begin a new life for herself and her children.

Cultural Conversations:

The Hidden Impact of Segregation with Reggie Jackson • Nov. 24 at 2 p.m.

Residential segregation did not happen by accident – and it has many damaging ramifications for our communities' and country's well-being. This talk uncovers the little known political, economic, and social forces that created and maintain residential segregation locally and nationally.

In a lecture that is both data-based and surprisingly engaging, Reggie Jackson illuminates the roles of federal and local governments, the real estate industry, and a de-industrializing economy in creating this situation.

Badger Boneyards • Dec. 3 at 6 p.m.

The bodies are buried, but the stories are not. From the ornate tombs of Milwaukee beer barons to displaced Chippewa graves and miniscule family plots, Dennis McCann's book "Badger Boneyards: The Eternal Rest of the Story" unearthed the stories of Wisconsin. Join Dennis for a presentation about the melancholy, the humorous, the tragic, and the universal in Wisconsin's cities of the dead.

TEEN EVENTS

Make & Take Craft Oct. 29 at 6 p.m.

Join us for an evening of crafting! This month's activity is button designing and making. All supplies and snacks will be provided. This program is open to grades 6-12 and registration is required, as supplies are limited. Visit the Adult Info Desk with questions or to register.

Teen Exam Cram

Nov. 24 from 12-4 p.m. and
Nov. 25 from 2-8 p.m.

Get out of the house and use the Library's quiet study areas for Homestead finals. The Library provides free Wi-Fi and "brain food" snack packs will be available in the Library rotunda for pick-up! You provide your books and notes, and your own computer and charger if you like. Good luck with finals!

Unlock the Box

Dec. 10 at 6 p.m.

Grab a friend and work as a team to beat the clock and open the box before it's too late. This program is open to grades 6-12 and registration is required as space is limited. See the reference desk with questions or to register.

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Family Storytimes

Every Tuesday, Wednesday
and Saturday at 10:30 a.m.

Storytimes include stories, finger plays and songs. A responsible adult should be present. No registration is required. Storytimes will be on a holiday hiatus from Dec. 15 through Jan. 6.

Discovery Lab

October 17 from 4-5 p.m.

Participate in a variety of station activities that promote science,

tech, engineering, art and math skills. Discovery Lab is intended for children in grades K-5 and parents and caregivers are encouraged to participate! Drop in anytime between 4-5 p.m. Registration is not required.

Family Film Friday

Select Fridays at 10 a.m.

Fill your fall with action and adventure with our Family Film Fridays! Oct. 18 Aladdin • Nov. 29 Toy Story • Dec. 27 The Lion King

A Spooky Storytime

Oct. 30 at 10:30 a.m.

Join us for a family friendly spooky storytime filled with spook-tacular stories and songs! Costumes are encouraged – no registration required.

Unlock the Box

Dec. at 2 p.m.

Do you love to follow clues and solve puzzles? Unlock-the-Box is an opportunity for children in grades 2-5 to work as a team to beat the clock and open the box before it's too late! This program uses BreakoutEDU to provide a fun, educational experience for all involved. Registration is required for this program, as space is limited.

A Winter Wonderland Party

Dec. 30 from 10:30 a.m.-
12 p.m.

A blast of winter is headed to the Library! For the first time in forever, join us for a special winter-themed party complete with storytime, crafts, snacks, balloon drop, and a meet and greet with special guests, the Frost Queen and Snow Princess.



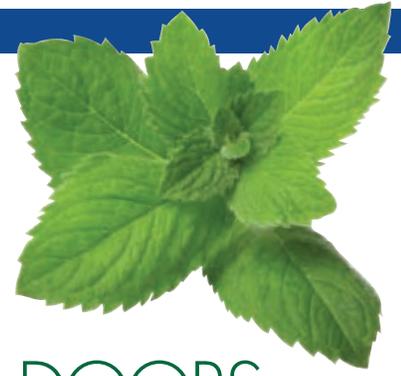
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HORTICULTURE PROGRAM OPENS DOORS TO FULFILLING CAREER

Nature can be a fascinating teacher. For some, like Drue Morris, who enjoyed exploring her grandparents' land in northern Wisconsin while growing up, nature can inspire the future.

The little girl who loved the outdoors went on to graduate from Milwaukee Area Technical College's Landscape Horticulture associate degree program, offered exclusively at the Mequon Campus. She is now working for the City of Milwaukee as a nursery specialist in the forestry department.

"We grow all the trees, and the annual and perennial plants for the city," Morris says, along with providing work on contract with some smaller communities and private organizations.

To help her prepare to enter the world of work, MATC connected Morris to career exploration through Tree Care Industry Association and National Association of Landscape Professionals conferences. She also earned additional certifications in greenhouse production and plant health care through the college.

"The personal support and encouragement I received from instructors during my time at MATC really helped me to develop my skills," she says.

While she works full time, Morris is continuing her education, pursuing a bachelor's degree in Sustainable Management through the University of Wisconsin-Stout. Like the employers of many MATC graduates, the City of Milwaukee provides an education stipend to help with the cost of her next degree.

At MATC, Morris was supported through a \$1,000 Marian Drake Breskvar Scholarship from the MATC Foundation Inc. Breskvar was a Milwaukee Public Schools teacher who left a significant portion of her estate to the MATC Foundation to endow a scholarship. Her generosity provides scholarships to more than 40 students each year. The MATC Foundation helps hundreds of students every semester by reducing the financial obstacles they face while pursuing their education. More than \$600,000 in scholarships and emergency grants was awarded to 728 students in the most recent academic year.

Receiving the scholarship's funds meant Morris could focus more on her studies and gave her time to volunteer at the Mitchell Park Domes, Urban Ecology Center and Wehr Nature Center.

"If I can get someone excited about plants, it's a good day," Morris says.

SECOND TIME TOOK ROOT

Morris had previously tried college, but stopped short of completing a degree the first time around. She's glad she gave it another shot.

"It was hard to motivate myself to try again and I was afraid of failing another time," she recalls. Finding something she loved – the horticulture program – helped her go from feeling as though she was "barely getting by" to "helping lead the pack." That included volunteering as an officer in the college's horticulture club.

She exemplifies how the right situation can make all the difference when it comes to realizing your dreams.

"I chose MATC because of the class-time flexibility, the price tag and the horticulture program," Morris says. She also highlights the hands-on classes and recommends the school to others.

"I am always looking for more ways to promote MATC's horticulture program because I truly think it is a hidden gem," she says. "The instructors really care about seeing you succeed, and it is nice to be part of meaningful work that adds to the environment around us in a positive way. There are so many avenues you can go down in horticulture and this program really helps you explore your options while receiving a good education."

Perhaps most importantly, the program made her confident in her skills while engaging in her passion. "I never thought I'd find a position that combined my love of greenhouse production and arboriculture/trees, but it was out there," Morris says.

To learn more about MATC's Landscape Horticulture program, visit matc.edu/mequon and click on 'associate degrees.' If you are a student who has some college credit but no degree, the new MATC Promise for Adults provides a tuition-free option to complete an in-demand degree. Learn more at matc.edu/promise.

"I am always looking for more ways to promote MATC's horticulture program because I truly think it is a hidden gem."



After receiving her associate degree in Landscape Horticulture from MATC's unique program at the Mequon Campus, Drue Morris is working for the City of Milwaukee as a nursery specialist in the forestry department.



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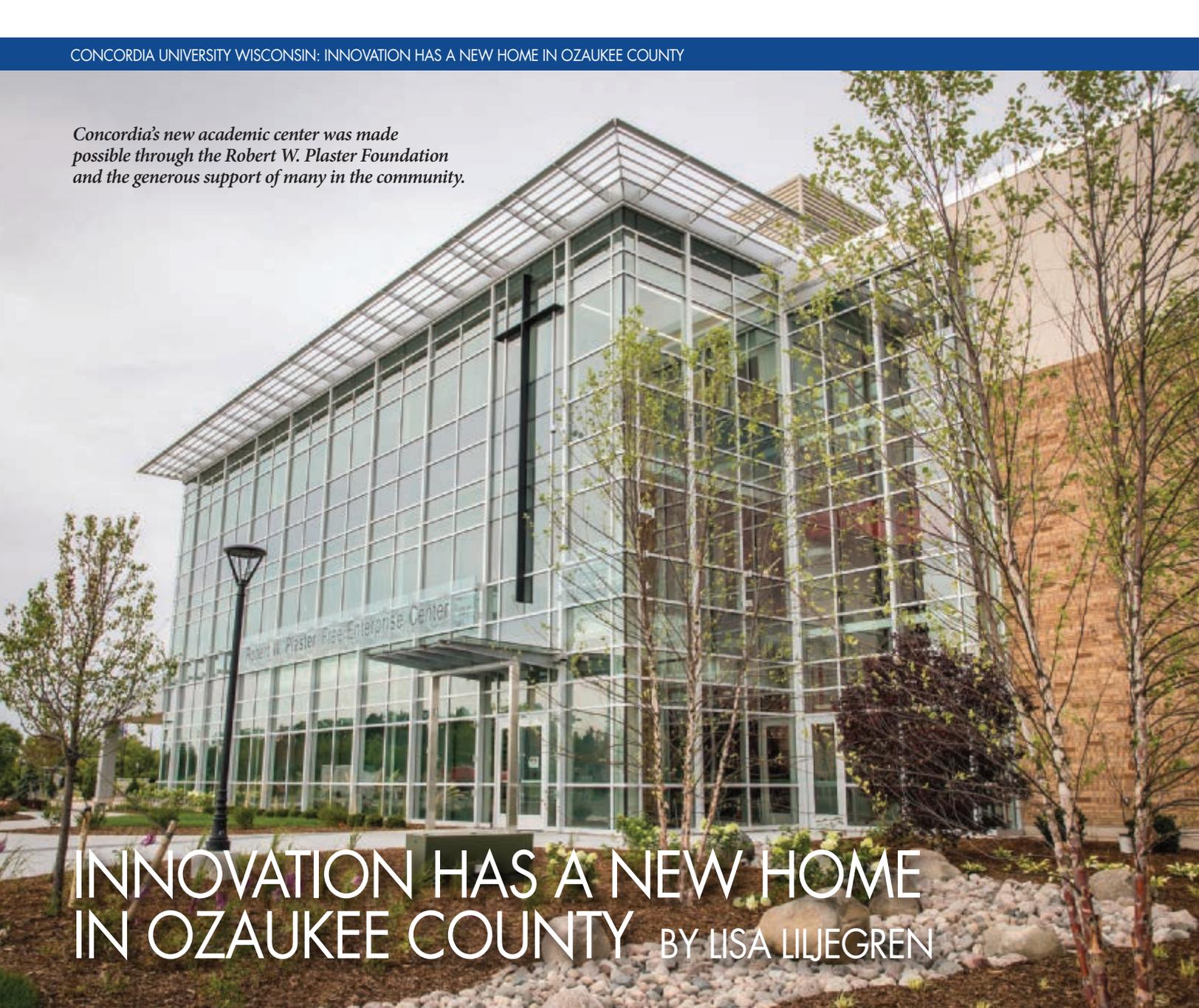
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Concordia's new academic center was made possible through the Robert W. Plaster Foundation and the generous support of many in the community.



INNOVATION HAS A NEW HOME IN OZAUKEE COUNTY

BY LISA LIJEGREN

It was only a footprint. Actually more than 1,400 footprints. Three years ago, on September 14, 2016, Concordia University President Rev. Patrick T. Ferry, Ph.D., led a special outdoor chapel service on the grassy soccer practice field just south of the administration building to seek God's blessing upon a new endeavor: the construction of a state-of-the-art academic building.

President Ferry's powerful message on the empty field was a reminder that the building Concordia was about to build was not about the structure, but the students, faculty and community members inside.

Brick by brick the pieces of the Robert W. Plaster Free Enterprise Center – the new house for the Batterman School of Business, health clinics, and collaboration spaces – came together. With the Lord's blessing and through the labor of many gifted hands, dedicated prayers and generous supporters, the dynamic Plaster Center took shape.

On August 1, 2019, the community returned to the once grassy field to dedicate the marvelous glass structure standing tall and glistening in the late-summer sun.

The Robert W. Plaster Free Enterprise Center innovatively aligns business and health care disciplines to prepare ethical caregivers who are holistically equipped to serve patients' spiritual, financial and physical needs.

The three-story, 41,000-square-foot academic building houses Concordia's thriving School of Business Administration, which graduates more students than any other academic school in the university. It is also home to the new Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic that will provide vital health services to the community, and prepare students with best practices and state-of-the-art equipment to be experienced practitioners in the field.

A hallmark of the Plaster Center is the massive Collaboratorium in the center of the house. Everyone – students representing all disciplines and members of the community – are encouraged and welcomed



The Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic is a fully functioning clinic that will serve clients throughout the span of their lifetime.

into this creative space to collaborate and tap into some of its resources, including 3-D printers for prototyping, allotted spaces for writing software code, a green room curtain for creating marketing videos, a creative workspace/bench, a robotic automation setup, and a virtual reality work area.

On one side of the Collaboratorium is the Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic, a fully functioning clinic that will serve clients with speech and hearing concerns throughout the span of their lifetime. A few key features of the clinic include:

- **Child Language and Literacy Center:** A fully equipped preschool classroom and playground for group and individual intervention.
- **Sensory Room:** A colorful clinic room stocked with a variety of therapeutic equipment, including swings, therapeutic balls, deep-pressure equipment, and visual and auditory feedback equipment.
- **Audiology Suite:** Serving clients of all ages, this space includes clinical audiometric equipment with a sound-treated booth.

It's all business on the other side. In addition to the dozens of business programs offered to undergraduate students, Concordia's MBA program, the largest in Wisconsin according to the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, is also housed in this dynamic building. With 15 concentrations to choose from, students can earn their advanced degree in areas like management, finance, innovation, international business and nonprofit management.

The fastest-growing MBA concentration is health administration. In this area of study, students learn the business side of the health care industry so that they can help to make compassionate care accessible, sustainable and possible. These MBA students have firsthand experience in the business affairs of the Speech, Language and Hearing Clinic located just down the hall.

More business amenities:

- A fully stocked culinary lab with cutting-edge components, including commercial-grade appliances, a hand-washing station, flexible counters, pull-down power sources, two video systems (including cameras in the hood of the stove), and separate labs for product development.
- A mock courtroom complete with a judge's bench, jury section, witness stations and video screens for viewing digital evidence or presentations.

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In fall 2016, students, faculty and staff gathered to stake out the footprint of a new academic center.

- An LED stock market ticker to be utilized by Concordia's accounting students.

Concordia has long been a hub for innovation and collaboration. A few of the signature business programs include annual start-up and accelerator competitions, an executive speaker series, and important summits in health care and economics.

The Robert W. Plaster Free Enterprise Center is the result of creative and imaginative academic leaders who had an uncommon vision to combine business and health care programs so that students will be better prepared to face challenges and find solutions in a rapidly evolving world.

Their vision is alive and thriving in the halls, classrooms and noisy Collaboratorium. The entire university community is grateful for the hands that built the house, the donors who supported the vision and mission of the university, and the faculty who use this space to prepare the next generation for service.

Student and community innovators alike may make use of the technology resources inside the Collaboratorium.





Members of the City of Mequon's Finance Department include (from left to right): Kaitlyn Krueger (seated), Jean Helm, Tom Watson, Carolyn Vogel and Pam Szymanski (seated).



MEQUON ATTAINS FINANCIAL EXCELLENCE

The City of Mequon works to consistently be a responsible steward of taxpayer dollars and ensure full financial transparency. To that end, the City strives to meet – and exceed – the level of financial standards set forth by the Government Finance Officer Association's (GFOA) through the organization's annual awards program. The GFOA is a non-profit, professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals.

The City has now received GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 11 years running, a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR) for 5 years in a row, and the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Finance Reporting (PAFR) for the last 4 years. The awards mentioned here are only achieved by a very small number of Wisconsin cities, towns and villages. In fact, Mequon currently is one of only five municipalities throughout the state of Wisconsin to earn all three of the awards. The City is honored to be among these select few communities that have been recognized for such excellence in both financial management and reporting.

This level of exceptional financial management reporting is no small accomplishment, and is due, in part, to the dedicated employees in the City's Finance Department who are charged with managing

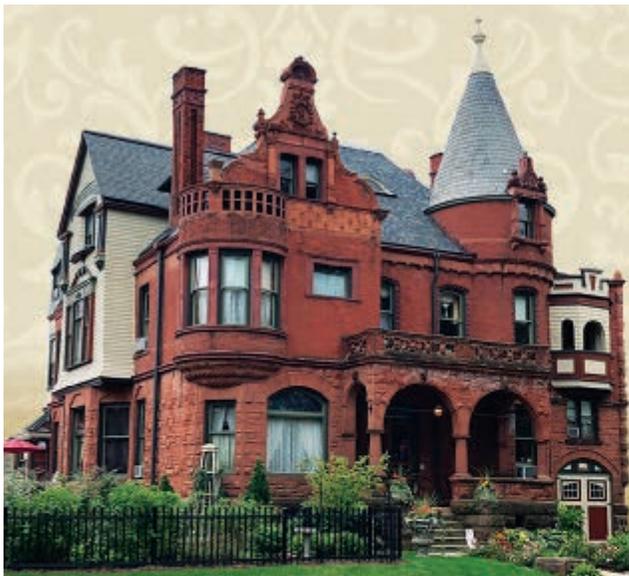
the financial operations of the City. The Finance Department is comprised of four full-time staff members who oversee all activities including tax collection, investments, accounts receivables, budget tracking, debt management, utility billing, and accounts payables.

The daily work of staff within the Finance Department drives the City's ability to attain all three of the GFOA's awards, properly manage the City's treasury year after year, and keep residents well informed.

After nearly two decades of exceptional leadership, Finance Director Tom Watson is hanging up his eye shade and joining the nation's ranks of retirees at the end of the year. Director Watson's contributions and guidance have been instrumental to the City's continued financial success and strong long-term outlook. The City is currently in the process of recruiting a replacement finance director to help lead the City into the next decade.

A library of the City's annual budget, PAFR and CAFR is available online at ci.mequon.wi.us or by contacting the Finance Department at City Hall. The City invites you to share your comments and suggestions about these documents, as well as how the City can continue to improve its financial reporting. The City of Mequon continues its goal of process improvement and transparency to better serve its residents and the community.

“Mequon currently is one of only five municipalities throughout the state of Wisconsin to earn all three of the awards.”



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CITY OF MEQUON CONTACT INFORMATION

ci.mequon.wi.us

- EMERGENCY911
- Administration/Mayor(262) 236-2941
- Ambulance (non-emergency)(262) 242-0205
- Building Inspections.....(262) 236-2924
- City Assessor.....(262)236-2952
- City Clerk.....(262) 236-2914
- Community Development.....(262)236-2902
- Engineering.....(262) 236-2934
- Fax (City Hall)(262) 242-9655
- Fax (Police Department).....(262) 242-7655
- Finance(262) 236-2947
- Fire (non-emergency).....(262) 242-2530
- Human Resources.....(262) 236-2915
- Parks Information and Reservations.....(262) 236-2913
- Police (non-emergency)(262) 242-3500
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From left: Mequon Fire Chief David Bialk and Deputy Chief Kurt Zellmann invite you to join the ranks of the Mequon paid-on-call volunteer fire department and make a difference in your community.

MEQUON FIRE DEPARTMENT NEEDS YOU!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Have you ever heard an ambulance siren or seen a fire engine responding and wondered what was happening? Have you been in a situation where someone was hurt and you wanted to assist, but didn't know what to do? Or, are you looking to become involved in your community?

If you said YES to any of the above, you should consider joining the Mequon Fire Department. There are many benefits of membership including training, lifelong friendship, community involvement and much more. There are many different ways a person can serve within the organization and each job helps accomplish the Fire Department's mission. Not everyone has to be a firefighter. EMS-only members are needed and welcomed as well – or you can fulfill both roles.

The Mequon Fire Department is staffed with two full-time personnel, Chief David Bialk and Deputy Chief Kurt Zellmann. The rest of the Department is comprised of more than 50 paid-on-call volunteers. The dedicated personnel at the Mequon Fire Department serve as firefighters, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and paramedics, as well as fire inspectors and community educators. There is something for everyone at the Mequon Fire Department.

The personal rewards experienced from volunteering with the Fire Department are often beyond description. There is always a sense of accomplishment when a fire is extinguished, joy and elation when a heart restarts, and satisfaction from delivering a fire safety message. But the feelings of each of those individual tasks never add up to the sense of overall satisfaction experienced when you realize that your efforts make a difference in the community – and that beyond a shadow of a doubt you are helping people and saving lives. Volunteering in emergency services is one of the most important

decisions a person may make. We hope that as a community member you give this opportunity serious consideration, and decide to join the ranks of the Mequon Fire Department. No experience is necessary, and training is provided by the Department to Mequon residents. Google "Join Mequon Fire" or visit www.mequonfire.com to contact the Recruitment Team for more information.

ABOUT THE MEQUON FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFF

Chief Bialk started his career as a volunteer firefighter in 1980. He has served as a volunteer and career firefighter as well as a Chief Officer throughout Milwaukee County before coming to Mequon in 2006. Chief Bialk holds an associate degree from MATC, a bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University and is a recent graduate of the Midwest Leadership Institute.

Deputy Chief Zellmann joined the Mequon Fire Department in May 2019, previously serving the City of West Allis Fire Department as a firefighter paramedic, and ultimately attaining the rank of assistant chief. Deputy Chief Zellmann has held various positions during his career, starting out as a mechanical engineer after graduating from MSOE. He began his fire service career with the Village of Lannon Fire Department and worked as a flight paramedic with Flight for Life.



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CITY OF MEQUON HIGHLIGHTS

CITY OF MEQUON HOSTS FREE APPLIANCE AND ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT ON OCTOBER 19

Disposal and recycling of large, bulky items is made easier during Mequon's biannual collection events. This year, the City will host the second opportunity for all area residents and businesses to dispose of unwanted items* in a convenient and primarily free manner on Saturday, October 19, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the parking lot at the Mequon Public Works Building, 10800 N. Industrial Dr.

APPLIANCES

Refrigerant Depot will be accepting household appliances with freon and non-freon items for no charge.

Sample items include:

- Air conditioners
- Boilers
- Dryers
- Dehumidifiers
- Exercise equipment
- Furnaces
- Grills
- Microwaves
- Range tops
- Small appliances
- Snow blowers
- Vending machines
- Wall ovens



ELECTRONICS

Legacy Recycling will be onsite collecting electronics. There is a \$25 fee for TVs and a \$10 fee for all monitors being recycled.

Sample items include:

- Cell phones
- Computers
- DVD, DVR, Blue Ray players
- Fax machines
- iPods
- Monitors
- Routers/modems
- Tablets
- TVs
- UPS
- VCRs
- Video game consoles

* Vacuums, lamps, CD players, portable stereos, hair dryers and fans are not accepted at these events. These items can be thrown in the trash with regular refuse.

For more information, please contact the City of Mequon's Parks Department at parks@ci.mequon.wi.us.

POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFERS DRUG COLLECTION KIOSK

Protect your family against the misuse of all medications by safely disposing of prescription and over the counter medications at the Mequon Police Department. Drugs thrown in the trash could also be found and misused, or cause harm to the environment. Residents may simply bring unwanted, unused or expired medication to the Drug Collection Kiosk located in the lobby of the Public Safety Building, 11300 N. Buntrock Ave. The kiosk is accessible 24 hours per day, 7 days per week (see photo on pg. 38).

MEDICATION DISPOSAL LIST

Accepted Items

- ✓ Prescriptions
- ✓ Vitamins
- ✓ Over-the-counter medications
- ✓ Samples
- ✓ Medications for pets
- ✓ Ointments and lotions

Restricted Items

- X Needles
- X Thermometers
- X Medication from businesses or clinics
- X Hydrogen peroxide
- X Aerosol can inhalers
- X Liquid medications
- X Illegal drugs

Tips for safe disposal

- Keep your medication in original bottles or containers (rather than placing in baggies). Mark out or remove your personal information so it can't be seen.
- To avoid spills, please don't put loose pills in the kiosk.
- To throw away needles, syringes or lancets, ask your pharmacist where to find the nearest collection container.



FREE LOGS AND WOOD AVAILABLE FOR PICK-UP

With an increase in the volume of trees and logs at the City's Brush and Yard Waste Disposal Center (6000 W. Bonniwell Rd.), the City has amended some of its standard procedures through the end of the 2019 season. Currently, wood, logs for firewood and compost are available for City of Mequon residents. No permit is necessary if you are only taking chips, logs and compost.

To reduce the cost of year-end grinding of the material, the City is now allowing non-residents to take wood and logs (from the City's tree-trimming operations). No driver's license is required for admittance. Most of the wood will require additional cutting and splitting. The load size is limited to approximately two cubic yards. Those picking up some of the City's free wood should be prepared to load their own vehicles. There is no equipment available from the City to assist.

Logs will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Contacting the Public Works Department with an interest in log wood does not guarantee availability. However, the City continues to remove trees through the fall; therefore, additional logs may become available as the season continues forward.

The Brush and Yard Waste Disposal Center is open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Wednesday and Saturdays through November 27. If residents or contractors are interested in taking a larger quantity of logs or use commercial equipment for loading, please contact the Public Works Department at (262) 236-2913 to schedule a time for log removal.

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**MEQUON TRICK-OR-TREAT
ON SUN., OCT. 27**

This year Halloween falls on a week day, and as a result, the City-wide Trick-or-Treat will be held from 4-7:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 27. From the candy to the costumes, Halloween is a spooktacular time for kids to go door to door collecting treats with family and friends. But for parents, guardians or those supervising trick-or-treaters, there is often a fine line between Halloween fun and safety concerns, especially regarding road and pedestrian safety.

Below are just a few tips to follow from the National Safety Council to help ensure your Halloween night is both safe and fun.

- Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs.
- If children are allowed out after dark, fasten reflective tape to their costumes and bags to make sure they are visible.
- Instruct your children to travel only in familiar, well-lit areas and avoid trick-or-treating alone.
- A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children on the neighborhood rounds.
- If your older children are going alone, plan and review the route that is acceptable to you.
- Tell your children not to eat any treats until they return home.

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Congratulations to these outstanding 2019 winners
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Watermark of Shully's in Thiensville.



MEQUON BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: BRIXMOR PROPERTY GROUP AND THE MEQUON PAVILIONS

VALUE-ENHANCING REINVESTMENT CREATES WELCOMING PLACES AND ATTRACTS CUSTOMERS

On the east side of Port Washington Road, just south of Mequon Road, you'll find a major outdoor shopping center, the Mequon Pavilions. This open-air mall, comprised of more than 50 stores, businesses and restaurants, is a popular shopping and dining destination for residents of the north shore. It is now getting a much-deserved "makeover," compliments of its owner, Brixmor Property Group.

Headquartered in New York City, Brixmor Property Group owns and operates a national portfolio of 421 open-air shopping centers – where retailers and communities connect and thrive. Brixmor Centers are located across 34 states, primarily in the top 50 metropolitan areas in the U.S. Brixmor acquired the Pavilions in October 2006, and these are the first upgrades for the property since it was built in 1967. Brixmor's vision is to "be the center of the communities they serve," by bringing in anchor stores and small-shop tenants that are relevant to the community to better drive traffic.

“Essentially, we strive to create welcoming places where people want to gather, connect and engage.”

According to Kristen Moore, senior vice president-marketing, “Our goal is to achieve the perfect mix of vibrant national and local retailers that connect with the communities we serve, transforming each shopping center through thoughtful merchandising and

sustainable, value-enhancing reinvestment. Essentially, we strive to create welcoming places where people want to gather, connect and engage.”

“Brixmor prides itself on its careful selection of community-focused, well-curated shops that complement each other, and tend to lead to higher occupancy levels and rental-rate growth,” says Joe Wight, vice president of property management for Brixmor’s midwest region. “We are thrilled to bring this major renovation to the Mequon Pavilions,” he adds, “and we are confident that the City of

Mequon and the overall community will be very excited to see the final end product.”

So what can we expect in the newly renovated Mequon Pavilions, with construction (already started in August) expected to be

completed by year's end? Some of the investments being made in the property include new LED lighting, new benches, new parking lot and sidewalks, new landscape enhancements, new awnings and canopies, new signage, and new underground utilities.

"The capital improvements have already helped us to attract additional high-quality tenants, including D-1 Fitness, Mathnasium and an expanded Hassless Mattress," says Moore. "We expect the leasing momentum to continue as other retail uses fill the remaining empty space."

Currently, the Mequon Pavilions feature a diverse mix of stores and restaurants: AT&T; Bed, Bath & Beyond; the Chancery Restaurant; DSW; First Watch Restaurant; Marshalls; Renewal by Andersen; Sendik's Food Market; and Wild Birds Unlimited, to name a few. With traditional retail under so many challenges, the Pavilions' improvements aim to elevate the status of the shopping center, and allow businesses to benefit from a mutually beneficial relationship with one other.

"There is a great deal of reinvestment occurring along the Port Washington Road corridor that brings new services and shops to the residents of Mequon," says Director of Community Development Kimberly Tollefson. "The investment by Brixmor, as one of the major asset owners, contemporizes the building and site, and will add new interest, attract new businesses and upgrade the aesthetics," she adds.

Be sure to check out the newly renovated Mequon Pavilions, especially with the holiday shopping season right around the corner!

**Brixmor Property Group • brixmor.com
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"The capital improvements have already helped us to attract additional high-quality tenants, including D-1 Fitness, Mathnasium and an expanded Hassless Mattress."



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THIENSVILLE CELEBRATES PWSB RIVER STAGE COMPLETION

As the sun set on Thiensville's Village Park on a late-summer Saturday, a crowd relaxed in the park sampling chili and enjoying music from the band performing on the new Port Washington State Bank River Stage.

The first-ever Chillin' in the 'Ville festival served as a ribbon-cutting celebration for the stage, the latest accomplishment of Village Park Reimagined, an ongoing effort to enhance the park along the Milwaukee River. The stage – already used numerous times during summer festivals, monthly food truck nights and other occasions – is the latest in a long list of improvements to the park. Other already-completed features include modern restrooms and an entryway feature. New playground equipment is typically teeming with children as their parents relax on nearby benches in the shade.

During Chillin' in the 'Ville, eight restaurants or other businesses competed for the title of best chili, while there were five entries for best mac 'n cheese. Shully's Cuisine & Events won top honors for chili, while Silverado North Shore earned the win for mac 'n cheese. Others competing – some in both categories – were Ferrante's, Crave, That Taco Guy, Chuck's Place, Remington's River Inn, Prime Minister and Piggly Wiggly in Mequon.

Those in attendance purchased a punch card that provided a sample of each entry. The taste-testers then selected their favorites. The day kicked off with entertainment by DJ Matt, who had a stage full of children dancing to "Baby Shark" and other hits. He even coaxed members of the Thiensville Fire Department to dance along to the song "YMCA." The firefighters also had several pieces of equipment on display in the park.

The ribbon-cutting included remarks by James Schowalter, senior vice president and chief credit officer of PWSB, and Thiensville Village President Van Mobley. Several members of the Schowalter family then took a pair of large scissors and cut a ribbon to christen the stage. Afterward, The Dan Lloyd Group entertained the crowd

with jazz. As the sky grew dark, Simply ID played hits to an audience that lingered into the night.

Proceeds from Chillin' in the 'Ville bring Village Park Reimagined closer to its goal of building a splash pad. If fundraising remains on track, the interactive water feature will be completed in the summer of 2020.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Village Park Reimagined Committee has a fundraising goal of \$250,000 for the fountain with just over \$75,000 already raised. Donations of any level are greatly appreciated and will not go unrecognized. Major sponsorship levels are available.

The interactive fountain, that will be centrally located in the park, will provide a gathering place to meet friends, read a book or just enjoy the sights and sounds of the park. Children will enjoy cooling off on hot summer days by jumping through the random sprays of water.

Other plans for the park include renovating the boat launch. The work includes a new boat launch, an ADA-accessible kayak and canoe launch, fishing access, river bank stabilization, native plantings and a kayak and paddleboard rack. Nearly half of the cost will come from an already-approved state Department of Natural Resources grant.

Long-range goals also include adding an area for ice skating. The rink would be enhanced by cooling technology that would permit a skating season that is not weather-dependent.

In addition to Chillin' in the 'Ville, that likely will become an annual event, Village Park Reimagined also will host the third-annual "Gala in the Park" next June. The 2020 event will have an Hawaiian theme. Tax-deductible donations to the Village Park Reimagined campaign will help these plans come to fruition.

For more information, visit the Village of Thiensville website or call Village Hall at (262) 242-3730.

SPECIAL UPCOMING THIENSVILLE EVENTS



Thiensville firefighter and paramedic Peter Neuman accepts a donation from two young trick-or-treaters during last year's Truck or Treat.

BEGGAR'S NIGHT AND TRUCK OR TREAT

Thiensville's annual Beggar's Night – from 3 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 27 – includes another tradition, Truck or Treat. Firefighters will ride a fire truck through the Village during the annual scramble for candy by little ghosts and goblins. They'll hand out candy, but will also take donations of food and other household items that will be donated to an area food pantry.

Last year, firefighters collected nearly a half a ton of canned goods, boxes of mac 'n cheese and other items. In addition to making donations to the firefighters during Beggar's Night, residents also may make donations at the Thiensville Fire Department, 250 Elm St., in the days just before and after Truck or Treat.

Firefighters collected almost a half-ton of food during last year's Truck or Treat.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

The Thiensville Business Association's annual Christmas Tree Lighting will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday Dec. 6, at the corner of Main Street and Freistadt Road. The event, sponsored by Port Washington State Bank, will include a return of the popular holiday market with a variety of vendors selling seasonal gift items. There also will be an opportunity for kids to meet with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Homestead High School's Choir will perform, and there will be free hot chocolate and cookies.



Thiensville Fire Chief Brian Reiels escorts Mr. and Mrs. Claus as they arrive at the Christmas Tree Lighting in a Village fire truck.



REGISTER FOR 15th ANNUAL TURKEY TROT THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28 • 9 A.M.

The popular Turkey Trot and Gobble Gallop will be held this year on Thanksgiving morning, Thursday, November 28. Presented by the Junior Woman's Club of Mequon-Thiensville, this event anticipates more than 1,500 participants – runners and walkers of all ages are encouraged to sign up. The event, including both a 5K run and a 50-meter dash for children age 10 and younger, begins and ends at Thiensville Village Park. The Turkey Trot is the organization's largest annual fundraiser. What a great way to get your exercise in and burn some calories first thing in the morning before feasting on that Thanksgiving dinner!

Proceeds from the event are given back to our communities. This year's recipient organizations include the Frank L. Weyenberg Library, Family Sharing of Ozaukee County, Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County and Possibility Playground. Grab your friends and family and come on out to enjoy a great morning run/walk to benefit the 15th annual Turkey Trot! Visit juniorsmt.org to register.





THIENSVILLE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (TBA) SUPPORTS BUSINESSES AND ATTRACTS NEW VISITORS TO COMMUNITY

Over the past six years, the Thiensville Business Association (TBA) has organized numerous events that have attracted visitors from across the North Shore to Thiensville.

The weekly Village Market has been wildly successful since setting up shop in Village Park in 2013. It's estimated the Food Truck Nights have attracted more than 2,000 visitors to each monthly event this summer. Other events the TBA either has sponsored or helped plan include the annual tree lighting, the Family Fun Before the 4th Parade, Business Trick or Treat and the Village-wide rummage sale that takes place every year in June.

Just recently, the TBA partnered with Village Hall and Port Washington State Bank to organize Chillin' in the 'Ville, which celebrated the grand opening of Village Park's River Stage.

"We're cracking the egg and getting the sizzle in the pan," says Ron Knaus, who recently took over as the TBA's president. Knaus, the vice president of business development for Port Washington State Bank, got involved with the TBA shortly after he became branch manager of the bank's new location in Thiensville. He's taking the helm from Marc Mrugala, who led the TBA for the past six years.

Knaus said the credit for the TBA's growth and success belongs to Mrugala, along with the cheel's co-owner Jesse Daily, and Rob Kos, the TBA's executive director. "It's such a good model that Jesse, Rob and Marc have put together," Knaus says. "I don't want to mess with it."

Knaus adds that the TBA helps provide "a shot in the arm" to the image of the community. He pointed to the weekly Village Market, which is not only a popular destination for fresh produce, but also

"a happy place" that includes live music, a weekly storytime put on by the Frank L. Weyenberg Library and a bright new play area teeming with kids.

The Village Market was the TBA's initial success story. It blossomed from a meeting called six years ago to talk about disbanding an organization that was struggling to gain traction. That emergency meeting in January 2013 was supposed to address a revolving door of leadership, a lack of board involvement and financial challenges. Those who gathered decided instead to give it another go. Mrugala, who was running the Edward Jones branch in Thiensville, agreed to serve as president.

"That was the meeting Jesse approached me about revamping the farmer's market," Mrugala says. Daily, who ran Core Consulting and recently moved to Thiensville from West Bend, believed the popular weekly market in that community could be replicated here.

He approached the Thiensville Village Board about moving the market from the sun-baked asphalt parking lot next to Walgreens into the park. Some were skeptical the market would succeed if it was moved off of Main Street, but gave their approval. "What I saw was an opportunity for families to get together and use the park," Daily explains. "It's now more of an event than a produce stand."

Daily and other organizers experimented with the hours over the years, hoping to attract shoppers after the work day. They eventually settled on the current 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. hours, that have struck the right chord with a steady stream of visitors and vendors now busy all day with customers. Daily added that Village Market and the many other

Left: Leaders of the Thiensville Business Association (from left), include President Ron Knaus, Board Member and Village Market Coordinator Jesse Daily, Executive Director Rob Kos, and Board Member and Past President Marc Mrugala.

TBA initiatives have helped put Thiensville on the map.

“When I moved here, a lot of people didn’t really know where Thiensville was,” Daily says. “We’re doing things a little different than some people are used to – but these are things we needed to do to identify our community. A lot of the effort we’ve put in is turning in our favor,” he adds. “Thiensville is one of the most sought-after communities to live in Wisconsin.”

Mrugala, who passed the torch as president after going to work as a financial advisor and partner with Richmond Investment Services in Mequon, agreed that the Village Market has become an event. A typical visitor spends well over an hour in Village Park.

“The whole concept of the Village Market is it’s drawing people into the community who wouldn’t normally be in Thiensville – and have them visit one or two other businesses while they’re here,” Mrugala explains.

The TBA also partners with Concordia University Wisconsin business students. The students have gained real-world experience and Village businesses have benefitted from semester-long student projects that have resulted in recommendations about marketing, promotion and other ways to enhance their operations.

Kos, also executive director of Gathering on the Green, took on the part-time paid position as TBA’s executive director two years ago. Between the need for consistent staffing at the Village Market, the addition of new events and a desire to grow the group, it was time to rely on more than dedicated volunteers. Kos, who moved to the area after selling his share in a New York-based music business to be with his now-wife, said he was introduced to Gathering on the Green and became a board member a short time later. He started leading the group after longtime director Beth Bauer retired. He said he read a story in the local paper about the TBA recruiting a director. He said he thought he was a good fit for the position – and got the job.

“It was just a great extension of what I was already doing with Gathering on the Green,” Kos says. “I love being involved with Thiensville – there is just such a big sense of community. I love everything about it.”

Now that the TBA has cultivated numerous fun events, such as the Village Market and the Traveling Food Truck Tour, Kos says the group wants to focus on growing the number of member businesses. It is doing that in part by soliciting testimonials from other Thiensville business owners who already belong. “A bigger, stronger and more-vibrant TBA will benefit everyone,” he says.

“The more members we have, the more events we can stage,” Kos explains. Kos adds that he has marveled at the crowds that have attended the Traveling Food Truck Nights in Village Park. He speculates that perhaps half live outside of Thiensville and Mequon. “One of our goals is to bring new people into Thiensville to see what a great community this is,” he points out. “We’re trying to show that this is a great place to live, work and play.”

VILLAGE CONTACT INFORMATION

- **EMERGENCY**911
- Administration(262) 242-3720
- Building Inspections(262) 242-3720
- Clerk’s Office.....(262) 242-3720
- Police Department (non-emergency)(262) 242-2100
- Fire (non-emergency)(262) 242-3393
- Public Works(262) 242-3720

KEEP IN TOUCH!

village.thiensville.wi.us

Stay informed and don’t miss out on all of the community news as it develops. There are a variety of options to choose from:

- Sign up for “Notify Me” to subscribe and unsubscribe to only the information you are interested in. Receive calendar and news alerts by email or text message.
- Make online payments.
- Use “Let us Know” to leave a message.
- Sign up for “Village Voice” to share an idea or vote on an initiative.
- Follow the Village of Thiensville on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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Left: Thiensville Village President Van Mobley (right), speaks about the history of Thiensville as he and walkers stand on Diame's Bridge across Pigeon Creek. He led the first-ever Wednesday Walk on June 12 through a steady rain.



Right: Barkha Limbu Daily (second from right), co-owner of the cheel restaurant, discusses herbs and other vegetables in a raised garden bed in Thiensville during a Healthy Herb and Plant Walk on the evening of September 11.

NEW WEDNESDAY WALKS PROMOTE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

Last winter, several Thiensville residents saw an article about the opportunity to be certified as part of the Wisconsin Healthy Communities program. It was a natural fit for the walkable Village, says Dr. Jennifer Abraham, a longtime Thiensville dentist, who helped organize what has become the Thiensville Lifestyle Coalition.

“The infrastructure, natural resources, sense of community in residents and business resources all contribute to physical and mental health,” she explains.

While additional events, including a lecture series starting this winter, are planned, the most visible activity so far has been a series of Wednesday Walks that proved to be a very popular twice-a-month event on evenings this summer. “We’ve had a lot of support,” Abraham shares. “There have been an average of 15 to 20 people on each of the walks.”

The event kicked off in mid-June. A steady rain did not deter Village President Van Mobley as he led walkers along the Rotary Riverwalk into downtown Thiensville. Mobley, also a professor at Concordia University Wisconsin, described some of the long-gone buildings of Thiensville’s past. The walkers

visited several historic landmarks, including the old Thiensville State Bank building that Mobley purchased and restored.

The series has continued throughout the summer with additional walks. They have included walks led by:

- Village Trustee Ron Heinritz, the chairman of the Historic Preservation Commission. Walkers enjoyed a rare look inside the Old Fire House.
- Thiensville artist Carol Gengler, whose walk took in several galleries in the Village, including her own.
- Thrive veterinarian Sue Howell, who escorted numerous dogs and their owners throughout the Village. The walk included a stop at her clinic, as well as a water break along the Ozaukee Interurban Trail.
- Jori Azinger of HeartSpace Acupuncture and Wellness Clinic, whose walk encouraged quiet meditation and experiencing the surroundings.
- Allie Baier, physical therapist from Health in Balance, who was joined

by others from her practice as they discussed core strength and healthy living.

- Barkha Daily, co-owner of the cheel, who led a Healthy Herb and Plant Walk to raised-bed gardens used by Shully’s Cuisine & Events as well as gardens at the baaree, that is adjacent to the cheel.
- Curt Kleppin, Thiensville’s new police chief, led a walk through the Village that culminated in a tour of the Thiensville Police Department.
- During the ghosts of Thiensville walk, walkers were introduced to ghosts at Shully’s Cuisine & Events and glaze.

Abraham has been joined in organizing the walks by Thiensville psychologist Karin



Thiensville artist Carol Gengler (right) provides a tour of her gallery as part of a walk that took in numerous art spaces in the Village on a steamy summer evening July 10.



VILLAGE OF THIENSVILLE WELCOMES TWO NEW EMPLOYEES

Flodstrom and Karen Krchma, a registered dietitian, who is opening a practice, New Newtrition, on Main Street.

Flodstrom has contributed to the series by interviewing each walk leader and writing a feature story that has been used in Village communications and also by the local newspaper.

She adds that the walks have been a great way for her and others to get to know their neighbors in the community. "People come to these walks with a happy attitude," she says. "People have been very enthusiastic about participating."

Plans already are underway for next summer's series of Wednesday Walks. While new ideas are welcome, Flodstrom says one new walk that likely will take place in 2020 will be a stroller walk for families.

WEDNESDAY TALKS ARE NEXT

Starting in January 2020, the Thiensville Lifestyle Coalition will produce a monthly speaker series featuring local health and wellness experts presenting on topical issues.

"Wednesday Talks" will take place in the Community Room at Thiensville Health Alliance, 136 N. Main St. in Thiensville, on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The presentations will be informative and inspiring, providing the community with valuable tips, and facts and resources for living healthy, balanced lives.

"Thiensville Lifestyle Coalition exists to create community around wellness," explains TLC chair Dr. Jennifer Abraham. "It was rewarding to see how that manifested with the Wednesday Walks this summer and fall." The full roster of speakers for the 2020 TLC Wednesday Talks will be posted this November at thiensvillebusiness.com/thiensville-lifestyle-coalition/.

Like the Wednesday Walks, Wednesday Talks will be free and open to the public.

Welcome aboard to these new Village of Thiensville staff members!

GARY ACHTERBERG is the new administrative assistant in the Village Hall office. In addition to assisting Village residents at the counter and on the phone, his responsibilities include helping support the rest of the Village Hall staff.

Achterberg is also helping with social media and other communications related to activities in Thiensville. He's a graduate of Homestead High School and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Achterberg was formerly a reporter for the *News Graphic* for the past 10 years, covering Mequon and Thiensville. He lives in Thiensville.

CHRIS DECHANT has joined the Village as the new full-time mechanic. He succeeds Mark Goelz, who retired at the end of last year after a lengthy career with Thiensville. DeChant, who spent a portion of his youth as a Thiensville resident, most recently worked for Go Riteway Transportation Group.

DeChant is married and lives in Germantown with his wife and two children. In his spare time, he works with Suburban Motors Harley-Davidson in Thiensville as a motorcycle rider coach. He also participates in motorcycle skill competitions.

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The Village BP is located at 246 S. Main St. in Thiensville.

THIENSVILLE BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: HERBST OIL, INC., TRU HEATING AND COOLING, AND VILLAGE BP FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESSES MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH PERSONAL CUSTOMER SERVICE

Interestingly, there are three distinct Thiensville businesses that not only are linked by the fuel industry – **Herbst Oil, Inc.**, **TRU Heating and Cooling**, and **Village BP** – but also share another common link: they are owned by local residents Dan and Theresa Umhoefer.

It all started 18 years ago when the Umhoefers purchased **Herbst Oil, Inc.** in August 2001 from the Herbst family who had owned the business in Thiensville for more than 40 years. Today Herbst Oil is the only D.O.T.-certified, woman-owned oil company in the state of Wisconsin. It offers homeowner and commercial products and services throughout southeastern Wisconsin.

According to Theresa Umhoefer, over the past 15+ years these businesses have rightfully earned a reputation for customer service excellence and personal attention. “We’re family-owned and -managed, and our businesses are well known as places where each customer is a name, and not just a number,” she says proudly. And because “we reside in Mequon not far from our businesses, the commute is as easy as it can be, and enables us to serve our customers better,” Dan adds.

Herbst Oil provides everything from fuel oil and furnace repair and maintenance, to heating oil delivery – which is why the company is valued by many as their preferred heating partner.

Commercial customers rely on Herbst Oil to keep their fleets running with timely delivery of gasoline and diesel fuel. And Herbst services area commercial fleets of all kinds, including buses, waste management, parks departments, railroad and construction company trucks, farm fleets, and more. The business

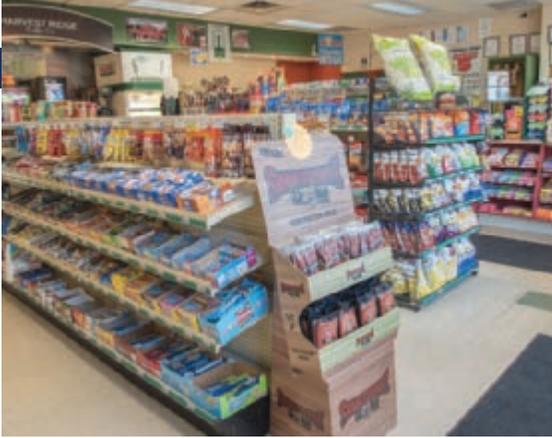
also offers mobile fuel tanks for jobsite or location use.

TRU Heating and Cooling Services, a division of Herbst Oil, Inc., was started as the HVAC industry turned away from oil heat. The Umhoefers noticed that customers were being sold expensive new heating systems, when minor repairs from an HVAC contractor knowledgeable in oil heating may have been the answer to keeping their existing systems running smoothly. Although TRU specializes in oil heating systems, they also service and install natural gas, propane, electric, and central air systems, hybrids, as well as air conditioning and refrigeration units.

As for the **Village BP**, at 246 S. Main St., it is considered Thiensville’s main gas station and convenience store. The Umhoefers leased this former Citgo station in 2003 after it suddenly closed. Dan saw its potential and pursued the opportunity to take over the site – especially since BP is the largest trader of natural gas in North America. True to form, the Umhoefers take pride in offering Village BP’s friendly staff, cost-effective prices and wide assortment of snacks and beverages in its convenience store. Open daily until 9 p.m., they also feature bakery goods from the popular Grebe’s Bakery. (The Umhoefer’s gas station experience runs



Theresa and Dan Umhoefer



deep – they own three other gas stations: in Adell, Wis.; Random Lake, Wis.; and Angelica, Wis. (Green Bay area).

Shortly after the Village BP was opened, the City of Mequon approached the Umhoefers about purchasing and running the concession trailer at the Mequon pool. They felt it would be perfect to have their children (daughter Courtney and son Curtis) and their nieces learn to run a business and earn money for college, so they bought the concession around 2005. Theresa explains, “The kids named it ‘The Dive’ and ran all aspects of the business for several years while in high school, with our support.”

Theresa is pleased to see how “the Thiensville business community is thriving, with many new restaurants and niche businesses opening in the Village. It is a very exciting time,” she adds. Dan agrees, but points out that while Mequon and Thiensville continue to grow, both communities still have that small-town feel and appeal. Both Dan and Theresa have been longtime supporters of their community, giving back whenever they can. Their involvement is noteworthy and their accomplishments are impressive:

- Town Center Award Recipients
- Small Business of the Year Nominees
- M-T Chamber Citizens of the Year Recipients

Plus, Dan was a Mequon Police Reserve officer for 13 years, and a Mequon firefighter/EMT for 16 years. He is currently on the board of the Jonathan Clark House. Theresa was instrumental in bringing the HHS Homecoming parade back to Main Street in Thiensville. And both Theresa and Dan are currently on the Thiensville Business Association (TBA) Board. They are also both members of Grace Lutheran Church in Thiensville, where Theresa is a former Sunday School teacher, and is involved with the music program. Dan is a past Council president.

These high school sweethearts, married since July 1984, agree that Thiensville is a great place to work and run a business – actually numerous businesses! According to

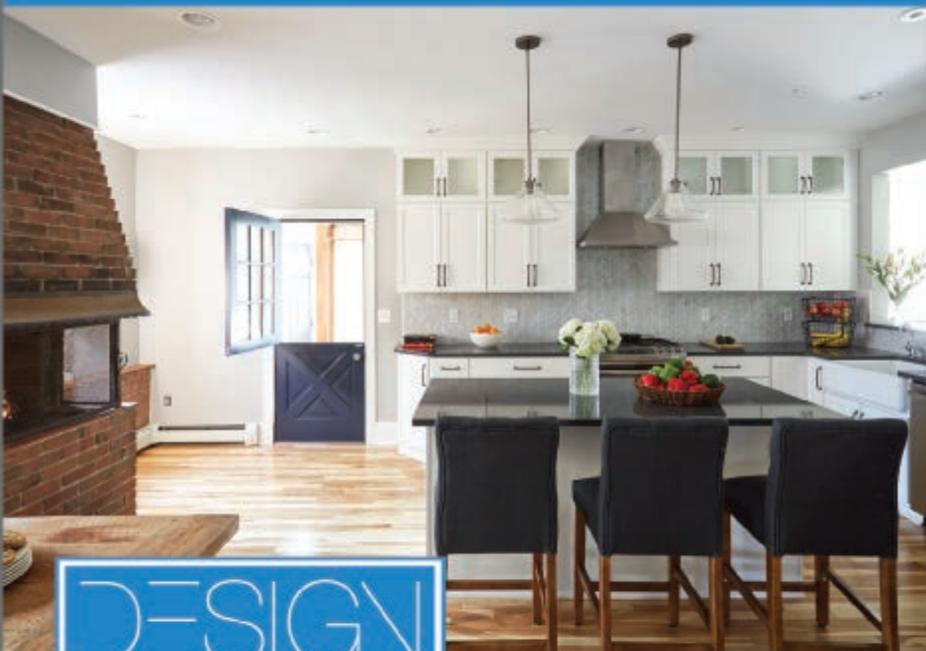
the Umhoefers, both lifelong North Shore residents and graduates of Homestead High School, each of their businesses offers different and unique challenges every day. “No two days are alike,” says Theresa.

“But one thing is clear – over the years, our customers have become family to us,” says Theresa, “and we just love the ‘homey’ feel of our community. We are so proud to live and work here – it’s been just great for our family!”

Thanks to the Umhoefers for their lifelong commitment to Thiensville (and Mequon)!

- **Herbst Oil, Inc.** • 230 S. Orchard St. • (262) 242-3660
- **TRU Heating & Cooling Services**, • 230 S. Orchard St. (262) 242-3660
- **Village BP** • 246 S. Main St. • (262) 478-0006

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~ OUT AND ABOUT ~



1

THE AUTUMN SEASON IS HERE!

Shorter days, cooler nights, colorful leaves and a new school year – it must be fall! We’ve had a great summer in Mequon and Thiensville and it’s now time to look ahead to colder weather, and the holidays. But there’s still plenty to do – see the community calendar to the right and don’t miss all the fun and fabulous happenings in our communities!



2

1. Residents may bring unwanted, unused or expired medication to the Drug Collection Kiosk located in the lobby of the Public Safety Building, 11300 N. Buntrock Ave. The kiosk is accessible 24 hours per day, 7 days per week (see pg. 24 for more details). **2.** Check out the crowds at Taste of Mequon! This annual, family-friendly event has something for everyone: food, music, kids’ games, crafts, and lots of fun mingling with your neighbors (photo by Sara Hays). **3.** The MTEF Color Run took place during this year’s Taste of Mequon on Saturday, Sept. 7. Proceeds benefited the M-T School District (see pg. 11). **4.** Kids were jammin’ on the new Port Washington State Bank River Stage during Chillin’ in the ’Ville (see pg 30). **5.** Allie Baier, physical therapist from Health in Balance, encourages walkers to use balloons as she talks about core strength during the August 28 walk she led through Thiensville Village Park (see more on pg. 34). **6.** The parking lot behind Mequon City Hall has been reconfigured and resurfaced to yield a more organized area with additional parking spaces.



3



5



4



6



Community Calendar



DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM EVENT DETAILS.
VISIT MTSD.K12.WI.US/CALENDAR FOR INFORMATION ABOUT M-T SCHOOL DISTRICT EVENTS.

OCTOBER

- **Fri.-Sun., Oct. 18-20: "James and the Giant Peach," Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., Sunday at 1 p.m.** Presented by Homestead High School Theatre Department in the James Barr Performing Arts Center.
- **Sat., Oct. 19: Mequon Free Appliance and Electronics Recycling Event, 9 a.m.-noon** Safely discard unwanted items in a convenient and primarily free manner. There is a \$25 fee per TV and a \$10 fee per monitor that is recycled. Public Works Building, 10800 N. Industrial Dr. Visit ci.mequon.wi.us or email parks@ci.mequon.wi.us for more information.
- **Thur., Oct. 24: Thiensville Business Association Trick or Treat, 4-7 p.m.** Participating businesses in the Thiensville Business District will have signs in front of their business inviting you in for candy and goodies. The Thiensville Police Department will have an officer at major intersections. Families and children of all ages are welcome. Sponsored by the Thiensville Business Association (TBA).
- **Thur., Oct. 24: Celebrate Your Community 2019 Awards Dinner, 5 p.m.** Presented by the M-T Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by Port Washington State Bank at Shully's Watermark in Thiensville. See pg. 25 and visit mtchamber.org.
- **Sat., Oct. 26: "Das Klean Out," 10 a.m.-2 p.m.** Free prescription drug drop-off and shredding event sponsored by Port Washington State Bank, Lakeshore Chinooks and Thiensville Police Department. The event includes food, music, pumpkin decorating and raffle prizes. Port Washington State Bank, 197 S. Main St. (see pg. 35).
- **Sun., Oct. 27: Thiensville "Beggar's Night" Village-Wide Trick or Treat, 3-6 p.m.** Door-to-door trick or treating in Thiensville. Firefighters will ride around the Village on a fire truck distributing candy and collecting donations for an area food pantry. (See related story on pg. 31.)
- **Sun., Oct. 27: Mequon Community-Wide Trick or Treat, 4-7 p.m.** Door-to-door trick or treating in Mequon (see pg. 25).



NOVEMBER

- **Fri., Nov. 1: Mequon Community Blood Drive, 7 a.m.** At Christine Nurenberg Hall in City Hall – enter doors facing Cedarburg Rd. or use the rear door to building and take elevator to the first floor.
- **Sat.-Sun., Nov. 2-3: "AFS Variety Show," Saturday at 7 p.m., Sunday at 1 p.m.** Presented by Homestead High School in the James Barr Performing Arts Center.
- **Wed., Nov. 6: "A Grand Night for Singing," 7 p.m.** Presented by Homestead High School Choir in the James Barr Performing Arts Center.
- **Wed., Nov 13: Naturalist and Author Bill Volkert, 6:30 p.m.** Meet Bill Volkert at Mequon Nature Preserve as he discusses his book, "Journey of a Thousand Lifers." Known throughout southeast Wisconsin and beyond for his decades-long work at Horicon Marsh with the state's DNR, the book chronicles the 55,000-mile, nearly eight-month journey by Volkert and his wife across multiple continents, sighting more than 1,300 species of birds.
- **Wed., Nov. 13: Marching Band Concert, 7 p.m.** Presented by Homestead High School marching band in the Homestead gymnasium.
- **Sat., Nov. 16: One-Act State Showcase, 7 p.m.** Presented by Homestead

- High School Theatre Department in the James Barr Performing Arts Center.
- **Thur., Nov. 28: 15th annual 5K Turkey Trot and Gobble Gallop, 9 a.m.** Presented by the Junior Woman's Club of Mequon-Thiensville on Thanksgiving morning at Thiensville Village Park. See pg. 31 and visit juniorsmt.org.
 - **Thur.-Fri., Nov. 28-29: Thiensville Village Hall and Mequon City Hall Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday**

DECEMBER

- **Wed., Dec. 4: Chamber Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m.** Presented by Homestead High School Chamber Orchestra at St. Boniface Episcopal Church, Mequon.
- **Fri., Dec. 6: Thiensville Business Association Christmas Tree Lighting, 5-7 p.m.** Walgreens' parking lot, 278 N. Main St., Thiensville. Visit with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus, free cookies and hot chocolate, coloring contest for kids. Homestead High School Choir will perform. Vendors will sell seasonal gift items at holiday market.
- **Sun., Dec. 8: Mequon Winter Wonderland, 3:30 p.m.** Presented by the Mequon Festivals Organization. Visit mequonfestivals.org.
- **Sun., Dec. 8: Pancakes with Santa, 8 a.m.-noon** Thiensville Fire Department, 250 Elm St. All-you-can-eat pancakes for all ages and photos with Santa. Adults \$7, children 6-10 \$5, under age 6 free. Those attending are encouraged to bring a new toy for the holiday toy drive.
- **Sat., Dec. 14: Mequon Police Department Annual Holiday Gift Wrapping Fundraiser, 10 a.m.** Your gifts will be wrapped by Police Department staff for a donation to Advocates of Ozaukee.
- **Mon., Dec. 23-Wed., Jan. 1: Winter Break for MTSD Schools**
- **Tue.-Wed., Dec. 24-25: Thiensville Village Hall and Mequon City Hall Closed for Christmas Eve/Christmas Day**
- **Fri., Dec. 27: Mequon Community Blood Drive, 7 a.m.** See details on Nov. 1 Blood Drive listing.
- **Tue., Dec. 31: New Year's Eve: Thiensville Village Hall and Mequon City Hall Open Until 12 Noon Only**

JANUARY

- **Wed., Jan. 1: New Year's Day City of Mequon and Village of Thiensville Offices Closed**

FEBRUARY

- **Sat., Feb. 1: Winter Frolic, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.** at the Mequon Nature Preserve. Free indoor and outdoor family activities include dog sled demos, ice fishing, bonfires, snowman building, live music, kids' projects, sleigh rides, food for purchase and more. Visit mequonnaturepreserve.org.
- **Thur.-Sun., Feb. 6-9: "Big Fish," Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., Sunday at 1 p.m.** Presented by Homestead High School Theatre Department in the James Barr Performing Arts Center.
- **Sat., Feb. 8: Tartan Bash** Presented by the Mequon-Thiensville Education Foundation at the Ozaukee Country Club to benefit the M-T School District. Visit mtfef.org for more information.

Mequon-Thiensville School District
5000 West Mequon Rd.
Mequon, WI 53092

Welcoming Fall TO MEQUON and THIENSVILLE



At Shorewest, REALTORS® Mequon Office, we are proud to be a part of the Mequon-Thiensville community and to support causes and events that benefit all of our neighbors!



These are just a few of the events we participated in and causes we supported in the past year!

