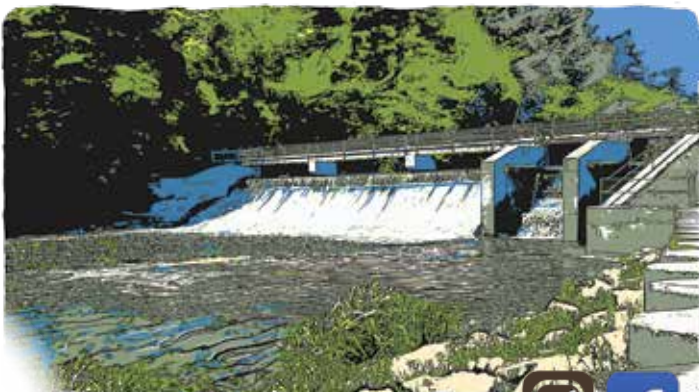


Hay River

Since 1987

REVIEW

October 2026



Alfalfa Fest Gives Back

Supporting Local Schools and Investing in Our Communities

By DM MICK

Local schools were smiling a little brighter this past month as six area schools received much-needed funding from the Alfalfa Fest executive team.

Members of the executive team recently visited each school to personally present a check, but the donations represented much more than financial support. Each check was a reflection of the generosity, hard work, and community spirit that continue to make Alfalfa Fest possible year after year.

Alfalfa Fest has always been about more than bringing people together for a great time. It is about strengthening our communities and giving back to the people and organizations that help make them special. Because of the continued support of local residents, businesses, volunteers, and everyone who attends Alfalfa Fest, the

organization is able to turn a community celebration into an opportunity to make a lasting impact.

The funds presented to these six schools will help support students, educators, and programs while providing for continued growth and opportunity.

None of this would be possible without the many people who give their time, resources, and support to Alfalfa Fest each year. Every donation, volunteer hour, sponsorship, and person who attends plays a role in making these contributions possible.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support Alfalfa Fest and its mission!



Now that the dust has finally settled, members of the Alfalfa Fest executive team passed on funds from this year's event to six local schools (see page 15 also). *Photos submitted by Judy Lehman*

Downing Triple Creek Country Days Bringing New Life to a Small Community

By Betty Glaser

I had the opportunity to meet Suzie Mason at the Ridgeland Fair Farmers Market. As a member of the Ridgeland Civic Club, I help with the Farmers Market, and Suzie was there as a vendor representing her business, SuzaBells This-N-That. I was also representing the Hay River Review, and this meeting gave me the opportunity to interview Suzie and learn more about what is happening in the Village of Downing.

Little did I know how much I would learn about Downing and the newly formed Downing Triple Creek Country Days organization.

The idea began when two members of the Village of Downing Board, Jennifer Lagerstrom and Sue Mason, wanted to find a way to bring new life to the community and make improvements to the village park. Downing had a very active Community Club during the 1960s and 1970s, but that organization eventually dissolved.

Now, these two women are working to bring that community spirit back.

Because of funding limitations that come with being part of the village, Jennifer and Sue decided to establish a separate community organization. With assistance from Nicole DeMar, owner of Flowers by Nicole, the group began taking shape.

Sue Mason serves as president, Jennifer Lagerstrom serves as vice president and secretary, and Nicole DeMar serves as treasurer. At this time, these three women make up the organization.

"Triple" cont'd. on page 2...



The organization wants to promote the Village of Downing, which has a population of approximately 261 residents, and help bring attention to its small businesses and the community as a whole. *Photos by Betty Glaser*

INSIDE



Homestead Hacks pg. 6



Homecoming

pg. 9



Zion 135th

pg. 10



Sumac

pg. 11



Haunted?

pg. 13

...“Triple” cont’d. from front

A Vision for Downing

One of the group’s primary goals is to improve the village park. Funding and volunteers are two of the biggest challenges they face. The organization also wants to promote the Village of Downing, which has a population of approximately 261 residents, and help bring attention to its small businesses and the community as a whole.

Their focus quickly expanded beyond the park. Downing had not held a community-wide gathering since the 1970s, so the newly formed group decided it was time to change that.

In a very short time, the women organized the first Downing Triple Creek Country Days, which took place September 19 and 20 and is planned to become an annual event, which will be held the 3rd weekend in September.

This year’s celebration included a craft event, car show, tractor show, motorcycle show, and a brat and corn feed with a free-will offering. The organizers are already looking ahead to next year, when they hope to add a parade.

Women Who Give Back

The work began with Village Clerk Jennifer Lagerstrom and Village Trustee Suzie Mason. While their original focus was the park, it has become clear that these women are focused on much more than that.

They are business owners, parents, grandparents, community volunteers, and working women. They are involved with SuzaBells This-N-That, the Glenwood City Ambulance, Flowers by Nicole, a daycare, and other community activities.

They enjoy being out in the community, meeting people, sharing ideas, and listening to stories about Downing’s past.

Suzie said one of the things she is most proud of is that the park is remaining a vintage park. She enjoys hearing stories from people who remember the park and especially enjoys hearing young children say that it is their favorite park.

The group is also partnering with local businesses, including Brothers Country

Mart, Flowers by Nicole, The Pump House, Downing/ Wintering Legion 232, and the Downing United Methodist Church.

They have been seeking sponsors, and sponsors so far include the Thrivent office in Glenwood City, Weyer Sanitation of Glenwood City, Little Midway Inc. of Connersville, Shotguns LLC of Somerset, and the Glenwood City Tribune. Brothers Country Mart is sponsoring the Brat & Corn Feed on Sunday, and Flowers by Nicole is sponsoring the trophies for the tractor show and fall flowers for the Village Office

Restoring a Piece of Downing’s History

One of the group’s successes has been the establishment of a Downing mural. The mural was created by Sara Nioles of Glenwood City, an art teacher at Glenwood City School.

The idea was to create a mural that would be a perfect fit for a wall in Downing. Funds were raised for the supplies, and Sara was given creative freedom to bring the project to life. Today, the mural is proudly displayed for residents and visitors to enjoy.

Another important piece of the project is the restoration of the park’s original sign.

The name Triple Creek Country Park came from a sign the village has had for many years. The original sign was made by Clarence Lulepke of Glenwood City. The name came from a contest held during the Downing Centennial, with Travis Gordon of Downing submitting the winning name.

The name was chosen because of the three creeks in the surrounding country.

Restoring the sign took approximately 40 hours of work, including extensive wood engraving and painting. The sign also helped give the park its own address: 511 Tainter St., East Downing.

Rather than purchase a new sign, Jennifer and Sue decided to preserve and restore the original. Their goal is to return it to the way it looked when it was at the Downing School.

Fundraising has included projects such as Buckets in Businesses and the Can

Trailer. Money raised has gone toward improvements to the park.

Improvements to the Park

The women and their supporters have already made numerous improvements.

The park now has a wooden Tic-Tac-Toe game, repaired teeter-totters, an updated basketball court, and a sand digger. Future improvements include restoring the old camel climbing structure, adding chalk stumps, a crawl-through tube, and a Hot Wheels track, and repairing the whirl-a-wind (Mitchell Whirl merry-go-round) once all of the necessary parts can be located. Slides and tetherball are also planned.

A tree has been planted in memory of Jennifer’s mother, Joan L. (Lee) Cassellius. An inspirational rock garden is planned for next year, and Jennifer has been spending some of her free time painting rocks for the park.

Looking Toward the Future

The ultimate goal is to grow Triple Creek Country Days into a larger annual celebration and eventually bring back the Downing parade.

This year’s event, September 19 and 20, was about more than activities and entertainment. The organizers wanted a celebration to shine a light on Downing and the surrounding communities.

They envision Downing as a place where children play, families gather, and neighbors connect — a place where people feel important, trusted, and valued, and where families can feel safe and welcome.

Everything being done by this new organization is volunteer-driven. The women and their supporters are putting in many hours because they believe in their community and want to make it a better place.

For this small village, it is a big undertaking. But the ladies know they are moving in the right direction. How do they know? They can see it in the children playing in the park. And perhaps that is the best sign of all that Downing’s community spirit is coming back to life.



The organization wants to promote the Village of Downing, which has a population of approximately 261 residents, and help bring attention to its small businesses and the community as a whole. *Photos by Betty Glaser*

Willow River Parish

159 10th St., Prairie Farm

Worship Services:
Prairie Farm Faith United Methodist 8:15 am
Clear Lake Methodist 9:30 am
Turtle Lake Methodist 10:45 am

Prairie Farm Ad. Council meeting
Thursday, Oct. 22 5:30 pm

Communion first
Sunday of month

Pastor Don Lee
(404) 271-3087

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Clear Lake

True Value.

For all your hunting needs!

530 3rd Ave NW, Clear Lake
PH 715-263-2375
Fax 715-263-3408

Put Projects Off All Summer?

get started with a

HOME EQUITY

line of CREDIT

DAIRY STATE BANK

Banking on Relationships

100 HEPBURN ST E, PRAIRIE FARM | 715-455-1339
RICE LAKE | MENOMONIE | BIRCHWOOD | BLOOMER | COLFAX | CUMBERLAND
DOWNSVILLE | HAUGEN | PRAIRIE FARM | TURTLE LAKE | WHEELER

APPLY ONLINE:
dairystatebank.com

Member FDIC

Editor
Danny McLennan
(715) 544-8001
editor.hayriverreview@gmail.com

Layout Design
Jessica Fischer
(612) 810-6855
cloverleafhome@mac.com

Advertising
Danny McLennan
(715) 544-8001
Ads.HayRiverReview@gmail.com

Bookkeeper/Subscriptions
Renee Bartz
(715) 308-1014
Office.HayRiverReview@gmail.com

Publishing Cooperative Board
Betty Glaser - Secretary
bls5524@yahoo.com
David Williams - Treasurer
williamsda@uwstout.edu
Donnette Mickelson - Director
donnettemickelson46@gmail.com
Douglas Owens-Pike - President
dowenspike@gmail.com
Maranda Peltier
Maranda.Lombardo@gmail.com
Shawn Kelley - Director
sckelley72@gmail.com

Regular Contributors
Ann Lee
Barbara Peterson
Betty Glaser
Brienne McLennan
Darlene Ramos
David Williams
DM MICK
Donnette Mickelson
Douglas Owens-Pike
Lon Christopherson
Martha Wright
Sam Dodge

Letters to the Editor & Misc.
editor.hayriverreview@gmail.com

Newspaper Policy
The Hay River Review is published monthly by the Hay River Publishing Cooperative. The Review reports community news and promotes the exchange of ideas in order to enhance the quality of life and to encourage community participation.
The Review is always looking for stories of community interest. If you have a story idea, tip, or article, please email Danny McLennan at editor.hayriverreview@gmail.com. Letters, articles, and photos can also be submitted online at HayRiver-Review.com, or by mail to: HRR, N12638 County Rd Q Downing, WI 54734. Articles may be edited and are published at the discretion of the REVIEW.
The Review welcomes readers' viewpoints. Letters must be signed and include a telephone number for verification purposes. Unsigned letters will not be printed. The REVIEW reserves the right to edit letters or delete parts of letters with defamatory or unsuitable content. Letters are published at the discretion of the Review.
Opinions expressed by the editor, correspondents, columnists, and contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the Hay River Publishing Co-op.
The staff and members of the board thank the advertisers who support the publication of the Review and encourage everyone to patronize local businesses whenever possible.
The Review is printed by Publisher's Printing of Amery.

POSKIN FEED STORE

Quantity is what you count. Quality is what you count on.

We have feed for a variety of species of animals. Seeds include Food Plot, Pasture, Lawns and more. Check out our Bale Feeders, Mineral Feeders, and Gates.

Minimum Custom Mixes:

- Bulk Delivery - 1 Ton
- Bagged Orders - 500 lbs
- Your own Barrels, Totes, or Wagon - 500 lbs.

(715) 357-3350 poskinfeedstore.com

Mon-Fri 8am-5pm Sat 9am-noon



If we don't have it in stock, we'll do our best to get it for you.



United Lutheran Church

Prairie Farm, WI

Sunday Worship 9:00 am
CLICK starts Wednesday
October 14 6-7pm
Ages 3-10 Welcome
Please sign up on the
ULC Facebook Page

October 25th
Confirmation Sunday
at 9:00am
Communion
Sundays
October 4th and 18th

Phone-in: 534-444-4222
YouTube Live: United Lutheran Church Prairie Farm
(no longer available to view on Facebook)

Pastor Sara Feld (715) 455-1454
www.ulcprairiefarm.com

ONLINE BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Visit hayriver-review.com/directory
\$20/yr to be listed

PUBLISHING DATES

Issue	Ad Due	Copy Due	Distribution
November	Oct 23rd	Oct 22nd	Oct 30th
December	Nov 18th	Nov 17th	Nov 25th
January	Dec 23rd	Dec 22nd	Jan 1st

Hay River Review is printed by Publishers Printing Services, 215 Power St, Amery, WI

ADVERTISEMENTS & SUBSCRIPTIONS

For \$9.00 a column inch you can get your business the notice it needs! A two column by 2" B/W ad costs \$36. Special rates are available for 3, 6, and 12 month contracts. We also offer color advertising options, and ad design services. Email Ads.HayRiverReview@gmail.com with advertising inquiries and/or visit hayriver-review.com/ advertise. The Hay River Review reserves the right to refuse any ad.

This community paper has been in operation since 1987, largely due to the support of advertisers and subscribers!

Thank you!

Support us with a subscription, or deliver local news and history to family and friends outside of the Prairie Farm- Ridgeland area for just \$25/yr (WI) and \$30/yr (out-of-state). Email your name and address to Office.HayRiverReview@gmail.com. Please include "HRR Subscribe" in the subject line. OR **SUBSCRIBE ONLINE** at HayRiver-Review.com

LETTER *from the Editor*

The Hay River Review is something special, and that became clear to me shortly after I moved to the area. When the opportunity arose to become involved with the newspaper, I felt it was important to help guide it toward telling meaningful stories about the people, organizations, and events that matter most.

While I do not feel I accomplished everything I originally set out to do, and I believe there is still important work ahead, I have made the decision to step away from my role as editor. In my time with the Review, I have had the opportunity to meet many wonderful people and learn more about the individuals who dedicate their time and energy to making our communities stronger.

Those conversations and relationships are something I will continue to value.

As I step away, the Review will welcome a familiar name back to the editor's role. Cassandra Kyser has agreed to return and continue the newspaper's work. Her experience, familiarity with the area, and understanding of our communities will provide continuity as the Review moves forward.

Thank you to everyone who supported me during my time as editor, contributed stories and ideas, and welcomed me into the community. Most importantly, thank you to those who continue working each day to make our communities better places to live. It has been a privilege to help share your stories.

-DM MICK

Long-Standing Harvest Supper Returns



One of the crowd favorites every year is the handmade pies.
Photo submitted by Maranda Peltier

By Lynn Bartlett

The United Lutheran Church in Prairie Farm has held our Harvest Supper in November since 1988. Over the years, it has continued to grow. We serve approximately 700 people and make this possible with over 100 volunteers who donate their time, food, or both. We also get a monetary donation from Thrivent to help offset food costs. It is so wonderful to have the community, both young and old, come together to make this a huge gathering of workers and people to enjoy the meal. This has

become widely known, and people come from all over.

Our meal is served family style and consists of ham, homemade meatballs, gravy, mashed potatoes, freezer corn, rutabaga, cranberries, coleslaw, lefsa, rolls, and a wide variety of pies.

The Harvest supper is on November 4th this year and is served from 4:30-7:00 p.m. with takeout available. We are always looking for volunteers to help. Please call or email Lynn Bartlett with any questions. 715-418-9700, lbartlett615@yahoo.com



Rausch-Lundeen

Funeral Homes, Inc.

331 Dallas Street W.
PO Box 185
Dallas, WI 54733
715-837-1580

JAMES R. LUNDEEN
President/Funeral Director

400 North 1st. Street
PO Box 121
Cameron, WI 54822
715-458-2514

www.rauschlundeen.com



Ridgeland Dallas Elementary

By Mackenzie Anderson

The 2026-27 school year is off and running at Ridgeland-Dallas Elementary! While there are many familiar faces around our building, we are excited to welcome several new staff members and celebrate the people who make our school such a special place for students and families.

One of our biggest changes this year is welcoming Ms. Jenna Loew as our new 3rd/4th grade teacher. Jenna has jumped right into the Ridgeland-Dallas community and is enjoying getting to know her students and families. She student-taught at Woodland a few years ago in first grade!

We are also excited to welcome Mrs. Lorena Bloom as our new music teacher and Ms. Candys McKinney as our new school cook. We are happy to have both of them join our school family and become part of our students’ everyday experiences.

Our paraprofessionals play a very important role in our school, and we are lucky to have their support. Mrs. Joy Shipley works with our 4K/Kindergarten students and also serves as our librarian and a speech aide. Mrs.

New Faces and New Beginnings at Ridgeland-Dallas

Nicole Mickelson works with students in 1st-4th grade and also provides math and reading intervention. Their support helps our students throughout the school day, and we are grateful for all they do.

Our classroom teachers this year include Ms. Nikki Beebout, who teaches 4K/Kindergarten, and Mrs. Mackenzie Anderson, who teaches 1st/2nd grade. Students also get to spend time learning with Mrs. Kristin Zueger in art, Ms. Abby Iverson in physical education, and Mrs. Jennifer Schill in guidance. Mrs. Carmen Larson also supports our students as our elementary reading specialist.

There are many other important members of our Ridgeland-Dallas team. Mr. Schafer helps keep our building clean and running smoothly, while Ms. Jodie Addyman keeps things moving in the school office. This year marks an amazing 45th year for Jodie at Ridgeland-Dallas! Her many years of experience and dedication are a wonderful part of our school community.

We are also excited to welcome Head Start to the Ridgeland-Dallas building

this year. Their program is now located in our school, giving us another opportunity to build connections and strengthen our school community.

Our principal is Scott Van Ess, and Angie Wagner serves as our Dean of Students. They are part of the team working alongside our staff to support students throughout the school year.

So far, our students and staff have been busy learning and practicing school expectations, getting to know one another, and building our school community. We have been working hard, but also making time for fun and creating new memories together.

In September, we celebrated the start of our school “new year” with a back-to-school celebration complete with noisemakers, treats, music, and plenty of dance moves! It was a fun way to celebrate being together and kick off another year at Ridgeland-Dallas.

We are excited to see what the rest of the school year brings. With new faces, familiar friends, and a great group of students and staff, we are looking forward to a year filled with learning, laughter, and plenty of Ridgeland-Dallas memories!



In September, we celebrated the start of our school “new year” with a back-to-school celebration complete with noisemakers, treats, music, and plenty of dance moves! *Photos by Mackenzie Anderson*

Winter Coat and Blanket Drive

By Jean Malsom

The parish cluster of St. Joseph, St. Boniface, St. Peter, and Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Churches is sponsoring a winter coat and blanket drive for the Barron County area. New and used winter coats, snow pants, boots, hats, mittens, and warm blankets will be collected and distributed. Donated items should be in clean, usable condition. Outerwear for all ages is needed. In past years, the highest demand has been for school-age children’s items.

Area churches and community groups are encouraged to collect winter outerwear and blankets from members for the drive.

Donated items may be dropped off at St. Joseph Church, 827 E. LaSalle Avenue in Barron, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays –Thursdays, 8 to 11 a.m. Fridays, other times by appointment or before/after Mass at any of the churches listed. A community donation site is located at the Barron County Government Center, 335 E. Monroe Avenue, Barron, inside the south entrance. This donation site is open Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Those needing warm winter supplies can pick them up free of charge on Saturday, November 7, from 9 to Noon. at St. Joseph Church, 827 E. LaSalle Avenue, Barron.

HayRiver

REVIEW

Subscribe Today

ONLY \$25/yr!

(see pg. 13)

TRAILER RENTALS

715-203-5229

• Trailers

• Dumpsters

• Skid steers

Your local source for affordable trailer rentals

lmtrllc.com

WHATEVER your situation, WE HAVE A SOLUTION.

Whether it's maintaining your current system or installing a new one, our specially trained technicians will make sure the job is done right. Call 715.246.2660 to schedule an appointment today.

WHATEVER IT TAKES:

321 Wisconsin Drive • New Richmond, WI

715-246-2660

www.countrysideph.com

West Akers Lutheran Church

The Church on the Hill • Pastor Mark Woeltge

Worship - 8:30 am

Fellowship - 9:30 am

Follow us on Facebook

E1795 1440th Ave., Prairie Farm

SECURITY BANK

NEW AUBURN • SAND CREEK • BLOOMER

RIDGELAND

Banking at your Fingertips

Sign up for on-line banking and download our mobile app!

Get your e-statements, check balances, make mobile deposits & pay bills on-line, day or night!

Security Bank Offices:

Ridgeland 715-949-2265

New Auburn 715-237-2658

Sand Creek 715-658-1415

Bloomer 715-568-3400

A FULL SERVICE BANK

Where Personal Service Comes First!

Lobby hours: Mon. – Fri. 9 – 4

Drive-up hours: Mon. – Fri. 8 – 5; Sat. 9 – 12

ATM Now Available: 24 Hours

securityonlinebank.com

Are you a vet? Are you any good?

By Bud Cadman, DVM

After practicing for more than 44 years in a rural veterinary clinic, I spent most of my time working with dairy farm families - I look back with deep satisfaction and gratitude. It was a privilege to serve some of the finest people in the world: hardworking families who began their days early, often worked into the evening, and met life with a good amount of common sense. They truly were the “salt of the earth.”

There is an honesty and straightforward communication style for many of these folks that might well be more “polished” in other fields of endeavor. On one of the first weekends that I was on duty in Ridgeland, I received a memorable phone call, and it was the beginning of that conversation which I will always remember - with pleasure. The call came early in the evening, and I answered - “This is Dr. Cadman.” There was a short pause, and then the caller

asked, “Who is this?” He was obviously expecting Dr. Howe to answer his phone call. I repeated, “This is Dr. Cadman”. Another pause, and then the caller asked, “Where is Dr. Howe”? I told him that Dr. Howe was out of town. The next question was, “Are you a vet?” I answered, “Yes, I am a veterinarian.” Another pause, and then the caller asked, “Are you any good?” That question caught me a bit off-kilter, and I think I may have answered something to the effect, “I guess only time will tell that story.” As the conversation continued, the caller told me he had a cow down with milk fever, and he needed a vet. I asked for his name and then directions to his farm, and I replied, “Okay, I will come and take a look at her.” I had not even gotten those words out, and he had just one more urgent question - “When?”

I drove onto his farm a few minutes later and quickly realized that his questions on the phone were not only a search for information but

also a bit of friendly banter. Over the years, he became one of my favorite clients to work with and visit. He almost always shared an interesting story, many of them rooted in local history.

One of his most memorable stories came from his late teenage years, when he and his brother - during the winter months - would rise at 5:00 a.m. and set out for the woods with a team of horses and a sled. After loading the sled with oak sawlogs, they hauled them to the Ridgeland railyard, negotiated a price with the log buyers, and watched as the logs were transferred to a railcar bound for a sawmill. Their goal was to return to the woods and deliver a second load that same afternoon.

A couple of times over the years, I reminded him that from our very first conversation, I knew he

would be a “Hard Tack”—a difficult and demanding person to work with. The observation always brought a hearty laugh and a challenge in return: “I may be an ornery old coot, but at least you have to admit I pay my bills—and that should be worth something.”

He was not only an excellent dairy farmer but also a respected member of the community. He served more than 26 years on the Prairie Farm School Board, more than 30 years on the Farmers State Bank Board, and as one of the first directors of the Barron Memorial Hospital Board. In his younger years, he was also an excellent athlete and spent two seasons with a Chicago professional baseball team. After coming back home, he was a member and great addition to the Ridgeland Reds, a local baseball team that had its fame in the 1940s and 1950s.

I recall working on his farm the week before Janelle and I were married. During that visit, he quizzed me about the wedding and asked when it would take place. When I told him it was that coming Saturday, he immediately asked, “Are you nervous?” Without waiting for my answer, he added, “Boy, I was sure nervous that whole week before I was married. You know, I think for a nickel I would have cut and run.” Then he chuckled, slowly shook his head from side to side, and continued, “But I am sure glad that I didn’t do that - it would have been a terrible mistake.”

He passed away more than 20 years ago, and the farm has now been passed down in the family for two more generations. They had an excellent legacy to follow, and I am certain he would be both proud and pleased.

Parkman School Reunion



This picture is of the former students and teachers of Parkman School, rural Prairie Farm. We met at the home of Tim Hafele, who lives where the former school site is located. Since 1991, we have had an annual picnic, starting at Rice Lake, then Prairie Farm Pioneer Park, and in 2026 at the Tim Hafele home.

Front row: Nancy Nelson, Barbara Bender, Kermy Thompson. Second row: Elsie Miller, Denise Quarders, Dawn Hartung, Kay Marion, Kathy Zemke, Ila Knutson. Third row: Charlotte Bottolfson, Doug Kurschner, Karen Kurschner, Robin Burke.

Photo submitted by Robin Burke

Corey's Repair, LLC

Auto / Truck Repair & Towing

216 Main Street East, Ridgeland

COREY MICKELSON, OWNER

715-949-1644 715-949-1099

Ridgeland-Dallas Parents Club

Take N Bake Lasagna

Tuesday, November 3rd

Orders include lasagna, breadsticks, & dessert.
Large (\$30): 6 servings. Small (\$10): 2 servings.
Please fill out the information entirely and indicate how many of each type/size below.

Name _____

Phone# _____

Pick-up: ☐ Riverview Middle School 3:30-6:30pm
☐ Ridgeland Dallas Elem. 3:15-6:00pm

Meat:
of large pans _____ # of small pans _____

Cheese:
of large pans _____ # of small pans _____

Chicken Alfredo:
of large pans _____ # of small pans _____

Chicken & Spinach Alfredo:
of large pans _____ # of small pans _____

THANK YOU
for supporting
Ridgeland-Dallas Elementary!

Proudly made with farm fresh and locally sourced ingredients!

Please return this order form and check or cash payment by October 23rd:

R-D Parents Club
PO Box 196,
Ridgeland WI 54763.
Checks are to be made out to BASD with RDPC on the memo line.

Dallas Lutheran Church

101 E. Dallas Street, Dallas 715-837-1795

Chicken Dinner

Oct. 7th 4:00-7:00 pm

1/4 grilled chicken, cheesy hash browns, beans, coleslaw, dessert

Freewill Offering

Help Heat the Church - proceeds go to a new furnace

dallaslc@chibardun.net dallaslutheran.org

Thank you to all of our contributing writers. You give our paper its unique flavor!



HOMESTEAD HACKS

By Sam Dodge

I think the one afternoon last week when thousands of dragonflies descended over the fields was the signal: Autumn is upon us. A bare sprinkling of pale flames smattered the trees and goldenrod glowed bright on the fallow fields. Now warm blazes spread through green leaves and wild asters shine over the fading gold... nights are cool and days are pleasant for the urgent work of bringing in the harvest.

The last lonely Hummingbird has finally deserted the nectar feeders; all the migrating birds seem to have packed up and headed for warmer climes. Woodpeckers, Peewees, Chickadees, Nuthatches, and other stalwart year-round Wisconsin residents are taking breaks from their wild foraging and indulging in the offerings here at our Wiseacres Avian Bistro. Bluejays threaten from high in the windbreak pines, mimicking birds of prey... I've had words with them about their bullying ways, and so far they're keeping their distance. If they get too bold and exercise their habit of descending in hordes, chasing off all the other hungry avians, I'll send a few airgun pellets across their bows. We will come to an understanding. Squirrels are nipping cedar seeds and pine cones, urgently squirreling away their winter caches. We noticed an absence of Monarchs a few days before the "official" start of Autumn.

No matter one's faith or philosophy, this change of season is an inflection point of rites and rituals. Jackets take the place of sun shirts in the hall closet and on the mudroom hooks; thick socks shove past thin ones at the front of the drawer. Flannel sheets replace light cotton on the bed-comforters are thrown over light summer bedspreads. Hot afternoon tea supersedes the iced version. Fires are stoked and tended, and we open the shades to a warming sun rather than close them. The rain tanks and barrels, their contents so jealously monitored through a dry growing season, are now plumb full, and we're

I'm a mostly self-educated putterer/maker/doer who has a hard time stopping his brain from thinking, his body from moving, and his hands from twisting and fixing bits of this and that into semi-useable gewgaws. Sometimes I get actual ideas, and sometimes I even make actual, useful things.

Incantations of Autumn

contemplating releasing all that water to the ground before it freezes...

The incantations and decantations of Autumn are coming to their climax in a blaze of color and activity. Late apples are starting to let go of the trees; the cider press is rumbling and clacking, and some juice is going in fermentation vessels to brew up holiday libations. Cabbages that aren't storage quality are shredded and brined for kraut. Dry beans are brought in in their shells before the first frost; they are a tropical plant and do not fare well in germination if they freeze. The squash and pumpkins have a little more time to mature, as do the sweet potatoes, but

it won't be long now until the only things left standing in the annual garden are the broccoli, kale and Brussels sprouts.

A month of firewood is loaded into the basement, and the woodsheds are nicely stuffed for the coming winter. Houseplants have suffered in the outdoor chill for long enough and are finding their way back to their windows and corners. Every act and preparation is like a prayer this time of year, solidifying our intentions through the cold season and on into Spring.

In this beautiful, rich, delightful, and worrying season, we look into the future with a mix of certainty and apprehension, of fulfillment and foreboding... every year.

RIP Old Barn

The old barn was taken down yesterday with careful work by Wirth Excavating. As it went, I thought about how long it stood here against the rain, the tireless sun, the heavy snows, and occasional tornadoes. It was here long before my animals were housed under the slanted shingled roof. Many memories were created below the hand-hewn timbers and inside the solid plank walls. RIP Old Barn. You have provided great service. *Photos by Nancy Frank*



The autumn blaze starts to paint its way around our landscape. Photo by Sam Dodge



Timberdoodle
MEDIA

MAKING LOCAL MARKETING MAKE SENSE!

715-544-8001 **INFO@TIMBERDOODLE-MEDIA.COM**



**DWYER'S
FEED AND SEED**
SINCE 2023

**24/7
SELF-SERVE FEED**

- FAMILY OWNED
- FULL FEED LINE
- SELF-SERVE BUYING
- BULK DELIVERIES
- CUSTOM FEED
- NUTRITION CONSULTING

715-651-9803
1571 E Division Ave Barron, WI, 54812



Grand Re-Opening
Dairy State Bank - Prairie Farm
Tuesday, Oct. 13 — Friday, Oct. 16

We're Celebrating All Week!

- **Treats Served**—8:30 am - 4:00 pm Every Day
- **Giveaways**—8:30 am - 4:00 pm Every Day
- **Prize Sign-Up**—8:30 am - 4:00 pm Every Day
- **Cookout**—11 am - 1 pm Friday, Oct. 16



**DAIRY STATE
BANK**
Banking on Relationships

PRAIRIE FARM
715-455-1339
100 HEPBURN ST E
dairystatebank.com

RICE LAKE | MENOMONIE | BIRCHWOOD | BLOOMER | COLFAX
CUMBERLAND | DOWNSVILLE | HAUGEN | TURTLE LAKE | WHEELER

Member  **FDIC LENDER**



All Aboard with the Ridgeland Library Review

By Donnette Mickelson

Our yearly book sale at the Ridgeland Fair Farmer’s Market was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who stopped by to support the library. This fundraiser allows us to clear out older or duplicate items and make room for new items added to the library.

Here are a few of the new books that are available for checkout.

- From the popular “Who was?” series, we have added three new titles to our children’s chapter book collection: “What is the Declaration of Independence?” “What is the Constitution?” “What was the Titanic?”
- “Fearless by Elvira Woodruff” Follows an eleven-year-old orphan boy aboard a stormy sea voyage in the 1600s. This exciting story is full of adventure and danger.

Our adult fiction also has new titles including:

- Whistler by Ann Patchett Two adults looking back at their life choices made and considering how those decisions shaped their futures.
- “Delusional by James Patterson” A fast-paced action thriller that will keep you turning the pages from a very popular author.

Discover Your Library Challenge

Beginning in September, each month will feature a new theme and a list of fun challenges to choose from. Visit the library each month to collect that month’s charm. For every challenge you complete, you’ll be entered into a monthly drawing for fun prizes!

Each month will also have a fun craft to do at the library.

Open to all ages and fun for everyone. Stop in the library and ask how to join the fun.

Save the Date!

November 7 for Spirits in the Night Wine and Craft Beer tasting fundraiser. More details to come, so watch for additional information and how to reserve tickets.

Read, Paint, Quilt

The season has begun for painting barn quilts. Sign up for one of the monthly classes and create your own beautiful barn quilt. Classes are taught by expert instructors, and no art expertise is needed. Registration forms are available at the library or at Security Bank in Ridgeland.

Prices for barn quilts are:
2’x2’ = \$75 3 x 3 \$115
4’x4’ = \$125

Class dates: October 3, November 7(waitlist only), January 9, February 6 (FFA and 4H) class in Menomonie, March 6, April 3, and May 1. All supplies and lunch will be provided. 50% down payment due at registration, three weeks prior to the

session attended. Classes fill up quickly! Do not wait to register. All classes take place Saturdays from 8:00 am- 5:00 pm. (approx. ending time) at the Ridgeland Elementary School. The library has a book of quilt patterns to help you decide on a pattern. For questions, email: mkolstad2@charter.net

There is a \$40 discount for barn quilts installed within the ten-mile radius of Ridgeland or within Dunn County, which will be refunded the day of the class. All quilts will be placed on the Dunn County barn quilt map.

The Ridgeland library is now a collection site for plastic recycling! Through a partnership with the Barron Area School District, Mrs. Kristi Huset’s classroom, and the library, the community can keep plastic out of our landfills and turn it into something useful, like park benches.

Community members are encouraged to bring clean and acceptable types of plastic to the library. There is a designated recycling bin at the library. The types of plastic that can be recycled are grocery bags, bread bags, bubble wrap, ice bags, plastic shipping envelopes, dry

cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, Ziploc and other reclosable food storage bags, cereal bags, case overwrap-like cases of water, toilet paper, paper towels, salt bags, pallet wrap and stretch film, wood pellet bags, and produce bags.

As the community collects plastic and goals are achieved, recycled plastic benches will be placed at school buildings and community sites. Every bag makes a difference! This is an easy way for families, schools, and community members to work together to reduce waste and create something that everyone can enjoy.

My family has made a conscious effort to try to reduce our household plastic usage, but it is unavoidable. It is amazing how much plastic can be redirected to this program. Plastic can be dropped off during regular library hours.

The library basement has a new floor, and the improvement has made the space even more inviting and useful. If you are looking for a space to hold a class, small meeting, or event, inquire at the library about reserving the space. We hope to see you at the library soon!

Women Farmers Aging Strong Wellness Toolbox Now Available

By Jessica Fischer

As the growing season winds down, fall is a perfect time for women farmers to pause, recharge, and invest in their health and well-being for the years ahead. Renewing the Countryside and Soil Sisters are excited to launch a new resource to help make that easier: the Women Farmers Aging Strong Wellness Toolbox. This free toolbox brings together a variety of ideas to nurture both physical and mental health, including movement videos, personal “day in the life” stories from our women farmer team, accountability sheets to track your progress, and practical ideas contributed by our team and participants through program events and Learning Circles

(sharing of experiences, resources, challenges, and opportunities). Many thanks to the North Central Extension Risk Management Education Center for supporting this project, along with our fabulous partners and women farmer-led team who helped bring it to life.

Soil Sisters first started in 2006, sparked at a potluck of women farmers in south central Wisconsin— helping foster various businesses and community connections. In 2019, they became a project of Renewing the Countryside, whose mission is to provide inspiration, ideas, and assistance to individuals and communities who are looking for sustainable ways to strengthen their rural communities.

Renewing the Countryside and Soil Sisters have a Hay River Review connection. Bonnie Warndahhl, HRR editor in 2022/23, also worked with Renewing the Countryside — helping pair up-and-coming farmers with available farms. When Renewing the Countryside needed to hire someone for website design, Bonnie pointed them to me, HRR’s layout designer. I’m still working with Renewing the Countryside, and I designed the Soil Sisters website and the Wellness Toolbox alongside Lisa Kivist, RTC Project Coordinator. At the Soil Sisters site, you’ll also find resources for how to share inspiring farming stories with the media, and what you need to know to serve food on your farm.

It’s inspiring to know that real-world people growing food on farms have found ways to connect that were helpful...enough so that what they learned from each other became a valuable resource. You can find the Aging Strong Wellness Toolbox — and other resources mentioned in this article — at soilsistershub.org



Visit the Aging Strong Toolbox each month as inspiration for self-care. The printable Accountability Planners are especially helpful for maintaining monthly focus on staying healthy.
Photos by Jessica Fischer

Northwoods
ELECTRIC LLC.

Master Electrician • Fully Insured
Residential • Commercial • New Construction • Remodeling

Mike Broten
Home: 715-455-1175 Cell: 715-296-9508



School District of Prairie Farm

October 2026

Corey Berghammer, Superintendent • John Casey Fossum, Principal

715-455-1861

www.prairiefarm.k12.wi.us

Paid for by the Prairie Farm School District.

It is the policy of the School District of Prairie Farm that no person may be discriminated against in any program or activity as required by s.116.13 Wis. Stats.

Principal’s Report

The 2026-2027 school year is well under way and students and staff are off to a great start. Students and staff are settling into the daily routine and we have enjoyed having students back in the building.

Open house was held on August 26th and saw a great turnout of students and families. It was great to see the energy that students brought back when they entered the building. Thanks to all the parents for their efforts in attending this event. Picture day was also held during open house and went extremely well. If you missed the opportunity to have a picture taken or are interested in scheduling a retake, Cahill studios will be returning on October 6th to complete the retake process.

The Leadership Council held a great orientation evening for incoming 6th grade students and families. The event was well attended and was a great introduction to the middle school. Students met with different groups of upper classmen to learn the tricks and trades of each grade level while parents met Mr. Fossum and Leadership Council members to discuss information and practices of the district. A special thanks to all members of the Leadership Council for organizing this event!

Homecoming will take place the week of September 21st and will look just a bit different. While many of the district traditions will continue throughout the week, some new opportunities are available as well as the PFC Co-op continues to grow. The Homecoming game will be held at 12:00 in Clayton vs. the Turtle Lake Lakers.

Parent teacher conferences are just around the corner taking place on October 8th from 2:00 – 4:30 and 5:30 - 8:30. The elementary has assigned conference times while the middle/high school is by drop in. We look forward to talking about your child’s successes with you.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to stop by the district office, or contact me at fossum@prairiefarm.k12.wi.us or 715-455-1861.

Sincerely,
Casey Fossum
PreK-12 Principal
School District of Prairie Farm
715-455-1861 ext. 258

From the Superintendent

As we move into the 2nd month of school, we are excited to see many familiar faces and also new additions to our district on a daily basis. After completing our 3rd Friday count, the school district has determined that we have had a slight enrollment decline as is common among other districts in our area and across the state. I feel that this is an important statistic to be aware of but not to be scared of.

It is important for our community to understand that declining enrollment is not unique to only Prairie Farm or even our region. The regional data demonstrates a broader statewide trend. From 2015-16 through 2025-26, enrollment among CESA 11 member schools declined approximately 7.2%, while Wisconsin public school enrollment declined approximately 8.7%.

Prairie Farm has taken steps to attract and retain our students. However, enrollment strategies alone cannot overcome the demographic reality we are facing. There are simply fewer school-age children across our region and state. Open enrollment and other strategies may shift where students attend school, but they cannot close the overall enrollment gap which has created concerns regarding declining enrollment. Ultimately, there are just fewer students.

As you know, declining enrollment has real implications for staffing, programming, facilities, services, and school district budgets. To help combat the impacts that declining enrollment has on the Prairie Farm School District’s budget and subsequently on our community, we continue to be thoughtful and responsible with hiring and other decision making. For example, by employing creative scheduling and maximizing existing staff talents the district did not fill two teaching vacancies and one support staff vacancy. At the start of the 2025-26 school year, we reduced staffing in both the kitchen and the transportation departments by one staff member each. The district’s custodial department is also doing as much in house work as we can to maintain and enhance our facilities and grounds. The district is making thoughtful and financially responsible decisions to continue to provide a positive, safe and engaging environment for our students and staff.

We are proud to celebrate our Prairie Farm School District story with our families and community and feel that this has attracted families to our district to become a part of our Panther family. We have a great staff and we have been able to attract quality educators to our district. Our history has shown that we have done well on our state report card year after year. Our graduates, whether they have gone on to continue their education, join the work force, or join the military, have been given the skills and put on a path to become responsible and successful young adults. We are doing our best to make responsible financial decisions without impacting our student’s ability to grow or our staff’s ability to educate and support our students.

Because of the state funding formula, continuing to provide this level of support with the funding that is available is becoming harder and harder to manage. Simply put, the school funding formula is dated and has put schools in a position of having to use referendums as a tool to help schools provide the educational experience that our families and community expect and deserve. Unfortunately, referendums are becoming common across the state with several districts having them on their ballots each year. Prairie Farm, like many schools across the state, could not survive on the state and federal funding we receive each year. Our local levy and referendums are the only options for our public schools to be able to continue to provide educational services to our students in a way we have in the past.

The School District of Prairie Farm appreciates the support of our community and our surrounding communities in helping us to continue to provide a comprehensive, supportive and positive educational experience for our students.

As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Corey Berghammer
cberghammer@prairiefarm.k12.wi.us
Superintendent
715-455-4219

What’s Happening

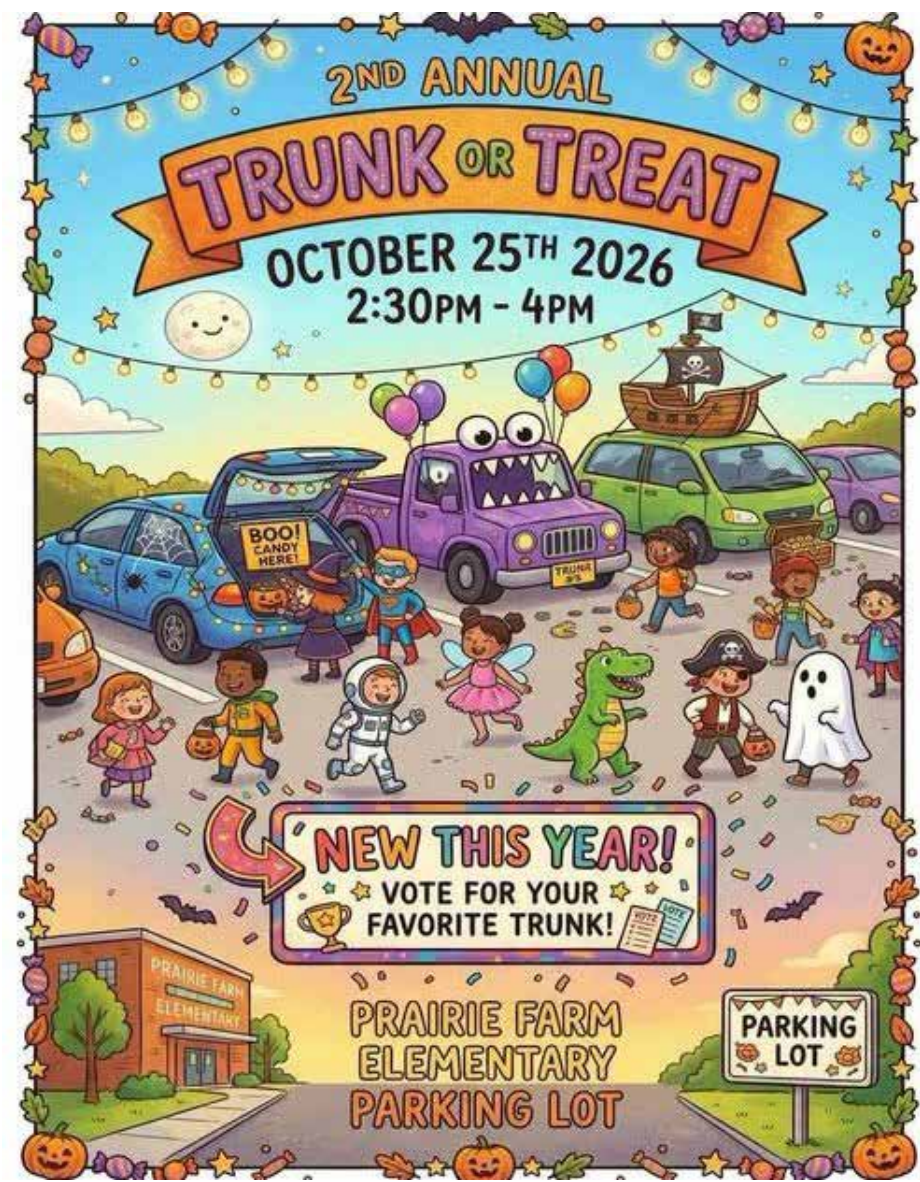
October 8	Parent-Teacher Conferences No School
October 9	No School
October 26	Teacher Inservice No School
November 23	Teacher Inservice No School
November 24-27	Fall Break-No School



Emergency Closing Information

The District will utilize our automated calling system to alert families of school cancellations and delays. If you are not receiving the automated calls, emails, or text messages, please contact the school office. We will be also notifying the radio and television outlets.

For the most up to date sporting events, please visit www.prairiefarm.k12.wi.us



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PRAIRIE FARM
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
September 21st, 2026—6:00 p.m.—IMC
MINUTES

- Members Present: Nelson, Nedland, Bates, Cadman, Miller, Richards, Roemhild
Members Absent:
- A) Call to order (subject to Section 19.83 Wisconsin Statutes) by President Roemhild at 6:00 p.m.
Mission Statement: The Prairie Farm School District in partnership with family and community provides educational experiences which foster academic excellence, lifelong learning and citizenship.
- B) Pledge of Allegiance
- C) Adopt Agenda
Motion by Nelson to approve the agenda, with the removal of F) 3) Title I School Wide Plan, seconded by Nedland. Motion carried.
- D) Minutes of August 17th, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
Motion by Cadman to approve the minutes of August 17th, 2026 Regular Board Meeting, seconded by Bates. Motion carried.
- E) Reports
- 1) Principal’s report/good news
 - 2) Student school board members- Sydney Buck, McKenna Ellsworth, Mya Hagen
 - 3) Athletic director’s report
- F) Business
- 1) Public comment residents/parents
 - 2) Policies
 - first reading
 - a) 8120-Volunteers
 - second reading
 - b) 7530.02-Staff and School Officials Use of Personal Communication Devices
 - c) 7544-Use of Social MediaMotion by Nelson to approve the second reading, seconded by Bates. Motion carried.
 - 3) Preliminary student enrollment numbers for 2026-2027
Motion by Richards to approve the preliminary student enrollment numbers for 2026-2027, seconded by Miller. Motion carried.
 - 4) Prairie Farm School District Strategic Plan
Motion by Cadman to approve the Prairie Farm School District Strategic Plan, seconded by Nedland. Motion carried.
 - 5) 66.03 Spanish Education Agreement with Clayton School District
Motion by Nelson to approve the 66.03 Spanish Education Agreement with Clayton School District, seconded by Cadman. Motion carried.
 - 6) Donations
 - a) Hansen Auction Group, \$250 to students in need
 - b) Rib Cook Off; Brandt Buckley and Spencer Smith, \$550 to PFC varsity softball program
 - c) Rib Cook Off; Michelle Buckley, Bart Gosnell and Brent Frederickson, \$600 to PFC varsity volleyball program
 - d) Rib Cook Off; Danny McLennan and Kraig Link, \$304 to PFC varsity baseball program
 - e) Rib Cook Off; Danny McLennan and Kraig Link, \$304 to community education baseball programMotion by Bates to approve the donations as presented, seconded by Nedland. Motion carried.
 - 7) Payroll check deposit in the amount of \$202,057.69
Motion by Richards to approve the payroll check deposit as presented, seconded by Bates. Motion carried. Roemhild and Nedland abstained.
 - 8) Financial report: AP in the amount of \$119,398.12, direct withdrawals in the amount of \$155,954.47 and PCard withdrawals in the amount of \$40,134.68
Motion by Bates to approve the financial report as presented, seconded by Miller. Motion carried.
 - 9) Committee and other reports, information or comments

Homecoming Week

Students enjoyed the many activities during homecoming week, including showing their American Pride.



- a) Superintendent’s report
Mr. Berghammer reported that we have posted for a bus driver to fill a route. He also reported that WIAA Foundation donated \$500 for baseball and softball helmets.
 - b) School board convention, January 20-22, 2027
 - c) Other information
- 10) Future meetings, Monday, October 19th, 2026, Annual Meeting at 5:30 p.m., immediately followed by Regular Board Meeting for October
- 11) Motion and roll call to go into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85 (1) (c) of the Wisconsin Statutes, to consider the employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of support staff, supervisors and teaching staff employees under which the Board has jurisdiction. Motion by Richards to go into closed session at 6:39 p.m., seconded by Bates. Motion carried.
Roll call: Nelson yes, Nedland yes, Miller yes, Cadman yes, Bates yes, Richard yes, Roemhild yes
- 12) Roll call and return to open session
Motion to return to open session at 6:55 p.m., by Miller, seconded by Nedland. Motion carried.
Roll call: Bates yes, Cadman yes, Richards yes, Nelson yes, Nedland yes, Miller yes, Roemhild yes
- 13) Resignations
- a) Joshua Miller, CWPF Assistant Wrestling Coach, effective August 19, 2026
 - b) Brooke Bates, PFC Assistant Softball Coach, effective September 1, 2026
- Motion by Richards to approve the resignations as presented, seconded by Cadman. Motion carried.
- 14) Contracts
- a) Cansis Hoifus, PFC Middle School Girls Basketball Coach, for the 2026/2027 school year
 - b) Hunter Nowak, Part-time CubCare Employee
 - c) Alyssa Ottum, Part-time CubCare Employee
- Motion by Nelson to approve the contracts as presented, seconded by Bates. Motion carried.
- 15) Volunteers
- a) Jeremie Hannah, PFC Middle School Football, for the rest of the 2026/2027 school year
- Motion by Miller to approve Jeremie Hannah as PFC Middle School Football volunteer for the rest of 2026/2027 school year, seconded by Richards. Motion carried.
- 16) Possible action from items in closed session
No action taken.
- G) Adjournment
Motion by Richards to adjourn at 6:58 p.m., seconded by Bates. Motion carried.

Zion Church Celebrates 135th Anniversary

By Donnette Mickelson

The Sheridan Zion Lutheran church and Cemetery Association held a celebration on Sunday, August 30th, to celebrate the 135th anniversary with a church service, barn quilt dedication, and potluck lunch. The barn quilt was donated by Corey and Donnette Mickelson as part of the Ridgeland Area Library barn quilt grant, and it will be added to the Dunn County barn quilt trail.

A barn quilt is a large wooden board painted to look like a quilt block. The idea of placing a barn quilt on the church is to get people from outside our community to find the hidden treasures in our rural area by exploring the beautiful countryside and

historic places that make our community special.

During the service, Pastor Eric Klefstad talked about the importance of a solid foundation in faith and church community. This solid foundation was evident to the descendants who still gather at the church. After the service, one of the most anticipated parts of the day was the potluck lunch. There was the usual fare of BBQ's, salads, and desserts, but two that stood out were the brunost cheese and funeral sandwiches.

Brunost cheese is a brown Norwegian cheese with a nutty caramel flavor. The modern recipe for this cheese was invented in the Gudbrandsdalen valley in

1863 by a milkmaid named Anne Hov. Having this cheese reminds us of the Norwegian ancestors who immigrated to the area and brought their food traditions with them. Even today, this traditional food is still being served at picnics.

Then there are the funeral sandwiches, a Midwestern church potluck tradition that deserves a little recognition of its own. This traditional sandwich can be found at any church potluck- it is an open-faced sandwich of rye bread, Cheez Whiz, and potato chips or even fancier green olives. It is a true Midwest delicacy. The anniversary celebration was a wonderful opportunity to honor 135 years of faith, fellowship, and community while celebrating the traditions that continue to bring people together.



The Sheridan Zion Lutheran church and Cemetery Association held a celebration on Sunday, August 30th. Photo by Donnette Mickelson



LESS IS PLENTY

By Darlene Ramos

Recently I paid ten dollars for a beautiful artisanal loaf of sourdough bread.

For a person who “splurges” only occasionally for a FIVE-dollar loaf of bread at the grocery store, it was an indulgence. Receiving it into my hands, I felt like I had been handed a pure form of the “staff of life,” much as in the days before preservatives and additives and mass production.

It’s not that I can’t make good bread. I have and do, but THIS bread is different, and I haven’t mastered it. So once home, I wanted to make every crumb count. I wanted it to taste as good as the moment I was captured by its beautiful presence, at the farmer’s market bakery bin.

And immediately I shifted from wondrous images of a craftsman pounding dough to images of me, pounding a wall in frustration. Why oh why does wholesome bread

Darlene Ramos is a retired cafe-owner and decades-long resident of the Hay River township. Born and raised in California she eventually migrated to Wisconsin for life in a “little (farm) house in a big woods”, with her family, wherefrom many articles and columns were written for local publications.

I’ll Do It My Way

stale so quickly? Why are there no good solutions for keeping it fresh for the time you need to consume it?

It was a big loaf, and there are just two of us. The day I bought it was a steamy summer one, guaranteed prime for forming mold. All the advice I can follow I do, but what is most often emphasized negatively is the thing I want to do the most--sticking into the fridge what we can’t eat soon enough. Apparently though, that is sacrilege! It’s the worst (best?) thing for accelerating staleness.

Well, what do I prefer to eat? Moldy bread or stale bread? After a day or two, those are my choices. I have already halved the loaf into the freezer and will deal with that later. For the present, it would just be lovely to enjoy the bread while it is at its loveliest!

How is it anyway that we are so often discouraged from consuming bread, otherwise categorized as “carbs”? If we are watching our health and weight, that is! I remember being pregnant, gaining a bit too quickly and being chastised, “Leave the bread off your sandwich!!”

Of all things, I was being advised that the “staff of life” is not helpful for creating new life, at least in my case. And in the overall scheme of my culture, same thing--Hispanic food traditions favor carbohydrate-rich meals, and I should knock those off, too.

I’m good with my culture, and I’m good with moderation. I’m also good with viewing “bread” as something more than food, based on what I was “faithfully” taught as a child. I’m even good with throwing in a few healthy grains, too.

I’m NOT good with regarding literal bread as poison or quickly inedible because someone (anyone) else says I should view it like that.

I’ll figure it out, and so will we all, right?! Whether bread is food, or symbolic or both. Whether it’s still good enough to partake of, or not fit for consumption.

Today I am figuring that the loaf of sourdough was nice, but a short stack of tortillas is even nicer.

It’s my culture. It’s the way it should be, says my heart and mindset. And I’m sticking to that!



Looking toward winter and small stacks of warm tortillas. Photo by Darlene Ramos

Being true to myself, I have to say ten-dollar loaves of bread are not practical for me, anyway. That one was consumed in full, but it ended up going back and forth between the breadbox, the refrigerator, and the freezer. It made the rounds and didn’t get a better reputation for it.

No way will I consume a big loaf of bread at Optimum for the sake of eating it while Optimum! My blue jeans don’t have an expansion band for that, and my attention span doesn’t settle for one thing until it’s gone,

either. Except in regard to my husband, that is!

Six muffins. Eight cookies. Ten tortillas. A small loaf of bread and six hamburger buns from the dough cycle in a bread machine--I have become a champ at producing those results at home, and what’s not to love about THAT?!

I give kudos to the producers of all the things I wish I could make but can’t.

But I’m so glad I am more drawn to figuring out “workarounds” and feel they are better than anything I could buy!

Made by hand, every time

TIMBER FORGED
DESIGNS

Traditionally crafted dining room tables and chairs

Follow us on facebook! Timber Forged Designs



FIELD & WOODLAND WANDERINGS

By Martha Wright

The fall season and an upcoming job change have me thinking lately about “last things.” The last things associated with work, of course, include tasks, people, and the drive I make each day. Seasonally, my thoughts are more aesthetic: the last time I drink my morning coffee on the deck, the last cycle the air conditioner runs, the last leaf to fall from the tree. We do not always know it is the last time until we look back later, so I am focusing on these colorful autumn days while they linger.

Martha Wright lives in the Hay River area where she spends as much time in the woods as possible. She enjoys long nature walks, looking for new plants to identify, and foraging for wild edibles. Her favorite wild edible is red clover blossoms made into fritters.

Sumac Season

With that in mind, I am appreciating the intensity of the trees and shrubs as I drive to work each day. Maple trees are renowned for their fall colors, but I say that the award for “Most Colorful” should be given to the sumac bushes (*Rhus* sp.) that are prevalent along the roadsides. One of the first to change color, as early as mid-August, the leaves run a wide spectrum from blazing yellow to burnt orange, and bright pink to candy apple red, together with the deep burgundy of the seed cones.

Sumac is a great plant for preventing erosion on those steep roadside banks because, as it spreads by rhizomes, or root suckers, underground, it makes a large interconnected colony. All those roots help stabilize the

soil. It is an important plant for pollinators, and birds benefit from the berries as a winter food source. I once found a surprise inside a sumac berry cone—it looked like a bird preferred the sumac and left a kernel of corn behind, tucked among the berries.

There are over 250 species of sumac worldwide, but only seven of them are native to Wisconsin. Two of those are most common in the Hay River area. Staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhina*) is named because the leaf stalks are coated with hairs that look similar to deer antlers in velvet. This is the one that I see most often, although I know smooth sumac (*R. glabra*) also grows here. They look alike except that smooth sumac, as the name indicates, has smooth stems.

The dark red cones of berries, which are known as drupes, stand all winter in colorful contrast to the snow. They can be harvested in the fall and ground into a powder to be used as a spice that is traditional in Mediterranean dishes. According to the description on the “World Spice” website, it has many uses, from meat rubs to yogurt dips. I mixed it with sugar and rolled cookie dough in it to make Sumac Snickerdoodles.

Sumac can also be used to make a beverage that some call Sumac Lemonade or just



Brightly colored sumac is common along roadsides. Photo by Hilary Wright



Sumac berries are called drupes. Photo by Martha Wright

Sumac-ade. It has a similar sour flavor to lemons. Put a berry cone into a jar and fill it with cold water. Let it steep for a while, strain, and add sweetener. According to Healthline, in an article from 2020 titled “Sumac: Benefits, Uses and Forms,” sumac is high in vitamin C, rich in antioxidants, has anti-inflammatory properties, and may help regulate blood sugar.

Whenever I mention sumac, I hear the inevitable question, “What about poison sumac?” Poison sumac (*Toxicodendron vernix*, sometimes listed as *Rhus vernix*) is a thing to avoid, as all parts are toxic. However, it is a swamp-loving plant with shiny, smooth-edged

leaves and white berries in open drooping clusters. Even though its leaves are also brightly colored in the fall, it is distinctively different from the types of sumac mentioned previously, and not nearly as common, at least in this area.

The end of one thing makes way for the beginning of another. With the job change, as I adjust to the beginning of a new position at a new company, I will be experiencing a lot of firsts. And as we see the fall season draw to a close, with all of its “last things,” it will make way for a new set of “first things” like the first frost, the first fire in the wood stove, the first snowfall, all heralding the beginning of the winter season.

United Lutheran Church

Harvest Supper

Prairie Farm

Wednesday November 4th

4:30 PM to 7:00 PM

take outs available at 4:30 PM

Family Style

Adults \$15

Children (5-12) \$6

Children 4 & under FREE

Menu

Ham, meatballs & gravy, potatoes, corn, rutabagas, cranberries, coleslaw, rolls, lefse, pie, and beverages

Gift certificates available at ULC!

4.25%

APY*

11-month CD

peoplesstatebank.com

800-252-3137

MENOMONIE, WI

BOYCEVILLE, WI

PLAINVIEW, MN

ELGIN, MN

ALTURA, MN

PEOPLES STATE BANK

Member FDIC

APY* - Annual Percentage Yield. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings. The APY is effective 9/24/2026. Rates and fees may change without notice. \$10,000 minimum deposit to earn the stated APY. CD automatically renews at a 12-month term. Member FDIC.

TRINITY

GRADING & EXCAVATING

NO JOB TOO BIG OR SMALL

• Waterways

• Residential

• Grading

• Basements

• Agricultural

• Horse arenas

• Commercial

• Roadways

715-296-2852

Lazy L Trailer Sales

Becky Loomis

Krissy Loomis

W394 Hwy 10 Mondovi, WI

1-800-926-5309

Becky@LazyL.com

WWW.LazyL.com

4-H
GROWS HERE

My name is Ann Lee, and I have served as Dunn County's 4-H Assistant for nearly two years. With a long-standing passion for supporting youth through positive learning experiences, I've worked in community programs including the Dallas Children's Community Garden, local after-school and library programs, and church education.

A New
Beginning

By Ann Lee

Excitement is in the air as the school year begins, and just as the new school year starts for many youths, so it does for 4-H. Now is the time to enroll or re-enroll for Dunn County 4-H. To enroll for the year 2026-2027, simply decide which Dunn County 4-H Club you'd like to join. You can read about the clubs by going to Dunn County 4-H's Club Page at <https://go.wisc.edu/dunncounty4hclubs>. Then go to 4honline.com, sign in or create an account, and fill in the necessary information about yourself and your child. At this point, you select the 4-H club and choose any

projects that your child might be interested in. These can also be added later. For more information about joining 4-H, visit the Join 4-H Page of the Dunn County 4-H website at <https://go.wisc.edu/joindunncounty4h>.

The beginning of the school year is exciting, but it can also be stressful for some, especially for young children such as our Cloverbuds who are in grades Kindergarten through second grade. Transitions and changes in routine can cause big emotions to surface for children. Mindfulness activities may help young children to learn how to manage their emotions. The article "Time to be Mindful," written by Rhonda Williams, a 4-H Educator of Darke County, Ohio, is a good resource of ideas on how to help children to manage their emotions. You can find the article at <https://go.wisc.edu/take-time-mindful>.

It was a victory for the Dunn County 4-H members who attended the Fourth Annual Night at the Races at the Red Cedar Speedway on Friday, August 14th. The Red Cedar Speedway went above and beyond by generously providing free admission to all our 4-H members. The 4-H members had a pre-race party with food, lawn games, and fun activities. During the race, they sat in their own section and had the honor of going onto the infield to recite the 4-H Pledge.

The Dunn County 4-H Dairy Judging youths had much success at the 2026 State 4-H Dairy Judging Contest in Madison on August 23rd. The Junior Team was named STATE CHAMPS! The Junior Team members, Aubrey and Mackenzie McClelland, Anya and Marlies Lange, Abigail Dietsche, and Sophia Bauer, have had an outstanding season. Aubrey, Mackenzie, Anya, and Abigail judged



Dunn County 4-H members at the "Night at the Races" event on August 14 at the Red Cedar Speedway. Photo by Zachary Rozmiarek



Junior Dunn County 4-H Dairy Judging Team with their coaches, Jim Powers, Aubrey McClelland, Riley McClelland, Mackenzie McClelland, Sophia Bauer, Anya Lange, Marlies Lange, Abigail Dietsche, Ben Dietsche, Ben Styer. Photo by Matthew Lange

during the State Dairy Judging Contest, while Marlies and Sophia served as Leads, people who lead the dairy cattle into the arena to be judged. The team also won the Type Analysis Questionnaire portion of the contest, which is a written component used in youth dairy cattle judging contests.

If you live in Dunn County and don't want to miss out on 4-H activities like these, join Dunn County 4-H today! For more information about these events, call Zachary Rozmiarek at 715-232-1636 or visit our Facebook page.

Leaders aren't born. They're grown.

HayRiver

REVIEW

We're easy
to find online!

Advertising
hayriver-review.com/advertise
Subscriptions
hayriver-review.com/subscribe

Prairie Farm - Ridgeland
**Emergency
FOOD PANTRY**
Located downstairs in the
Prairie Farm Legion Hall
Open Tuesdays
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m
Closed the 5th Tuesday
For more information call
715-641-1254 or
715-455-8061
Donations accepted at
149 10th Street Ridgeland, WI 54763
This institution is an
equal opportunity provider

WIRTH
EXCAVATING, LLC

- Excavating • Trucking
- Lime Spreading



Jason (715) 829-1295
Barry (715) 296-6492

 Rural Mutual
Insurance Company

Agent **Tyler Holten**

tholten@ruralins.com

108 E Main Street, Ridgeland, WI 54763

CALL FOR A QUOTE

Cell: 715-418-1634 • Office 715-949-2122

Want something
new and fresh?



Kitchen • Bath
Flooring • Paint • Tile

Licensed & Insured
Residential Contractor
with Services through
Western Wisconsin

precisioninteriors.net



**PRECISION
INTERIORS**

715-410-9227



St. Paul's
Lutheran
Church

October Worship Time

Sunday Worship 8:00 A.M.
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.

Harvest Fest
October 18 at 10:30 a.m.
Please come for food and
a silent auction.

Pastor Roger Quandt
fb.me/st.paulsridgeland 1-888-864-7161



Have a happy & safe Halloween!

Anderson

Sanitation


Portables
Septic & Holding Tanks

Drew Anderson (715) 455-1404

Diamond Street Beauty Bar

139 Diamond St. Ridgeland

Salon Hours

Tuesday 9-4

Wednesday 11-6

Thursday 12-7

Friday 9-2

Saturday By Appt.

Gift
Certificates
Available





715-949-2887 (CUTS)



SPORTSMEN'S
BAR AND GRILL LLC

Friday Night Fish Fry

Featuring Walleye

choice of potato, side and dinner roll.

Shrimp Baskets also available.

RIDGELAND, WI

715-949-1666 • 715-418-9330



CJ CUSTOM
SERVICES

Offering professional bale wrapping and custom
property services across Northwest WI

JOSH

715-558-1303

josh@cjcustomservices.com





PIZZA

Fresh baked made to order

Call 715-263-3444

A convenience store & gas station proudly
serving the area
since 2001

960 S Ave W, Clear Lake

Take-n-Bake Pizza

Hot & Cold Sandwiches

Fountain Drinks

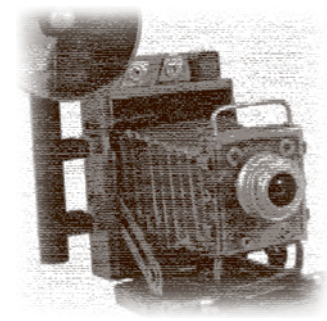
Fresh Bakery Gas

Looking for In-home Help?

Check the Resource Guide at
adrcconnections.org

or call 715-537-6225 for help
connecting to local resources


Aging and Disability Resource Center
of Barron and Rusk Counties



PHOTOS FROM OUR PAST

If you have an interesting photo from our community's past that you'd you like to share, email it to me at lonchristopherson1@gmail.com or stop by the Ridgeland Library Thursdays, 3-5.

By Lon Christopherson

Growing up in the early 1960s, I remember a spooky house that once stood high on a hill above my grandpa's farm near Highway 64. The outside paint had long since weathered away, and its tall spire looked exactly like the haunted houses I saw on TV. One day, when I was about six or seven, my dad dropped me off at Grandpa's for the afternoon.

A little while later, Grandpa turned to me and said, "Let's go visit Albert for lunch." I had no idea who Albert was. But as we pulled out of the driveway and turned toward the hilltop, that massive house loomed ahead—and a lump formed in my throat. Grandpa parked the car and motioned for me to get out. Trembling with apprehension, I followed him to the front door. He knocked, and the door creaked open. Instead of a monster, we were greeted by a short, elderly man who warmly invited us inside. Sitting at his table with a plate of cookies and a glass of water, my fears completely vanished.



The Spooky Old Emerson House, now long gone.
Photo submitted by Lon Christopherson

It wasn't a haunted house at all; it was just the home of a kind old man. Years later, in the 1970s, I was riding the school bus to Barron when I overheard some of the older students talking. They had found a place to party east of Ridgeland, not far from our farm. Alcohol was undoubtedly involved, but several teenagers said that in the dead of night, they heard a blood-curdling scream. When they looked toward the trees, they saw a figure in white sprinting through the woods.

They called her the Screaming Lady. I dismissed the ghost story back then, but years later, I learned that a tragic event had taken place near the party site back in 1919. The victim was Cora Baland, a beautiful 17- year-old girl who had attended nearby Dammon Ridge School. Like many of that time, after completing eighth grade, she left school to help on the family farm and also did work as a housekeeper. One of whom she worked as a housekeeper for was a 40-year-old bachelor farmer who lived just a short walk from her family. One

afternoon, after joining the Balands for dinner, the farmer asked Cora to return to his place to help with some chores. She agreed. When she finished the work, he demanded she stay to do more, but she refused.

An argument flared up. Local rumors suggested the bachelor wanted to marry Cora, meaning the dispute likely went far deeper than simple housework. Suddenly, something snapped. The bachelor drew a revolver and fired. His first shot missed, but the second struck Cora in the arm. Terrified, she fled through the door, screaming for her life. He fired two more shots into her back. One pierced her heart, killing her instantly. The bachelor then turned the weapon on himself. Could the white apparition the teenagers saw have been the restless spirit of young Cora Baland, or was it just the overactive imagination of a few kids in the woods? I guess we will never truly know.

Have a safe and Happy Halloween, everyone—and watch out for things that go bump in the night!

HayRiver REVIEW

Subscribe Me!

\$25/yr (WI) \$30/yr (out-of-state)

Enjoy HRR? You can have it delivered straight to your mailbox!

Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Return with check to:
Subscriptions — Hay River REVIEW
N12638 County Rd Q Downing, WI 54734

OR SAVE A STAMP
and renew online at
hayriver-review.com

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

October 1	Dallas Library Board Meeting at Dallas Library, 6 p.m.
October 1	Ridgeland Area Library Friends of the Library Board Meeting at the Library, 6 p.m.
October 3	Dallas Library Book Sale 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
October 3	Ridgeland Area Library Story Time at Ridgeland Area Library, 10 a.m.
October 5	Ridgeland Senior Citizens 500 Card Club with Potluck at the Ridgeland Community Center, 12:30 p.m.
October 5	Prairie Farm Ladies Civic Club Meeting at Prairie Farm Community Center, 6 p.m.
October 8	Wits Works at the Dallas Library, 1 to 2 p.m.
October 15	Ridgeland Civic Club Meeting at Ridgeland Area Library, 6 p.m.
October 19	Willard L. Hinzmann American Legion Post 511 and Auxiliary Unit 511 Meeting at Community Center, 6 p.m.
October 19	Ridgeland Senior Citizens 500 Card Club with Potluck at the Ridgeland Community Center, 12:30 p.m.
October 19	Flu Clinic hosted by Dunn County Health Department at the Ridgeland Community Center, 9 to 11 a.m.
October 25	Trunk or Treat Prairie Farm PTO and Prairie Farm Ladies Civic Club at Prairie Farm Community Center, 2:30 to 4 p.m.
October 27	Ridgeland Area Library Cookbook Club at Community Center, 6 p.m.
October 29	Ridgeland Area Library Historical Meeting at Ridgeland Area Library, 5:30 p.m.
October 31	Ridgeland Community Improvement/ Ridgeland Civic Club Holiday Decorating at Village Park, 10 a.m.

Put your event on the Community Bulletin Board by contacting Betty Glaser at bls5524@yahoo.com or (715)529-1451.

SPONSORED BY NEDLAND INDUSTRIES
RIDGELAND, WI

Trying to Beat Old Man Winter to the Punch

The Early Elves of Ridgeland

By Betty Glaser

If you’re anything like me, you roll your eyes when stores start displaying decorations for the next two holidays before we’ve even celebrated the next one. Yet somehow, here we are talking about Christmas decorations already!

The Ridgeland Community Improvement Group may finally be getting wiser. What am I talking about? Decorating the park for Christmas, of course! The first year we decorated, I think the guys were hanging lights in the trees during a downpour. The next year, we declared, “Never again!” only to find ourselves working in temperatures hovering in the low 30s. But not this year.

We have a member who has been studying the Farmers’ Almanac forecasts, and let’s just say we’re determined to beat Old Man Winter to the punch! To do that, we need your help. We’re looking for volunteers to help decorate the trees in Ridgeland and the two park pavilions. If you have a ladder, bring it. If you have Christmas spirit, bring plenty of that too! Holiday singing is welcome, although we’ll leave the quality of the singing up to each volunteer.

When: Saturday, October 31, at 10 a.m.

Where: Ridgeland Park

What to Bring: A ladder (if you have one), work gloves, and your favorite holiday attitude.

Time Commitment: About one to two hours, depending on the number of volunteers

Whether you’re a master light-hanger, an ornament expert, or just willing to hand someone a string of lights, we’d love to have your help. The more volunteers we have, the faster the work goes, and the sooner we’ll have the park shining bright for the holiday season.

After all, many hands make light work... and in this case, they also make beautiful Christmas lights!

Barron Portable Buildings

Two locations-
Barron and Sarona

Trevor- 715-205-6286
Vern- 715-418-6037

Quality buildings, from your local neighbors



Mike’s GunWorld

Gun Repair & Cleaning
Fully Licensed Firearms Dealer
Buying & Selling



715-308-0022
Hay River, Wisconsin

MikesGunWorld@gmail.com
Mike’s GunWorld on
YouTube & Facebook

TOWNSHIP & VILLAGE MEETINGS

Contact Town Clerks for details

Township/Village	Clerk/contact info.
Town of Arland	Pam Fall 715-455-1074 pamela.fall@thrivent.com
Town of Dallas	Karolyn Bartlett 715-837-1039 townshipofdallas@yahoo.com
Town of New Haven	Katie Bovee 715-643-3703 clerk@townofnewhavenwi.com
Town of Prairie Farm	Vicki Buck 715-495-2798 buckdv@chibardun.net
Town of Sand Creek	Pam Meinen 715-205-3511 sctown@chibardun.net
Town of Sheridan	Joe Boesl 715-205-6193 clerkofsheridan@gmail.com
Town of Vance Creek	Kara Norberg 651-491-3067 clerk@tn.vancecreek.wi.gov
Town of Wilson	Denise Schlough 715-949-1938 ddtsschlough@mosaictelcom.net
Village of Dallas	Lynn Anderson 715-837-1186 vdallas@chibardun.net
Village of Prairie Farm	Sherrie Siebert 715-455-1714 clerk@villageofprairiefarm.gov
Village of Ridgeland	Kristin Huset 715-949-2265 bkhuset@chibardun.net



A. BERNAL
ELECTRIC
Commercial • Residential
P.O. Box 71, Prairie Farm, WI 54762

Arturo Bernal
Master Electrician

(715) 418-1610

L.O.F. Apparel & Tack

Gary & Leesa Berhow
101 Center St. Ridgeland, WI

Open Thur & Fri
11am-5pm, Sat 9am-3pm

Stop in and see all we have to offer!



★ Horse Grooming Products
& Tack ★ Clothing for All Ages
★ Boots & Shoes ★ Cowboy Hats
★ Purses and Jewelry ★ Breyer
Toy Products ★ Special Orders

loftack.com 715-949-1000

Mae Ona (Lee) Repp
July 9, 1925 to
September 6, 2026

Mae Ona (Lee) Repp, age 101, of Prairie Farm, WI, died Sunday, September 6th, 2026, at Deerfield Gables Care Center in New Richmond, WI. She was born July 9th, 1925, to Olaf & Mathilda (Grote) Lee in the Town of Vance Creek, rural Prairie Farm, WI. She attended Vance Creek Elementary School & graduated from Clear Lake High School. She went on to attend college at River Falls University, where she graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. On August 17th, 1946, she was married to Lawrence Repp

at West Akers Lutheran Church in the Town of New Haven. Mae Ona taught at various elementary schools for 47 years until her retirement.

Mae Ona was preceded in death by her parents, sisters: Anna, Inga & Alice, father-in-law & mother-in-law: Harry & Merle Repp & her husband & love of her life for 73 years, Lawrence, who passed away January 24th, 2020. She is survived by many nieces, nephews, other relatives & friends.

In accordance with Mae Ona's wishes, a private family interment will be held at West Akers Lutheran Cemetery in the Town of New Haven, rural Prairie Farm. Arrangements are with Rausch-Lundeen Funeral Homes, Dallas & Cameron.

**ASI**
Aqua-Service, Inc.
Well Drilling

Well Drilling
Well & Water Systems Service
Free Estimates
715-458-2250
Jerome Wojkiewicz,
CWD, WDNR #561
Jeff Haughian,
CWD, WDNR #6562
—Serving the area for 40 years—

RASSBACH REALTY LLC
www.rassbachrealty.com
Erik Davidson
Cell: 715-505-7469
Jill Rassbach Pember
Cell: 715-556-1539

**Buy or Sell with us today!**

Pioneer, Riverview Manor, Scott Terrace Apartments
Prairie Farm
1 and 2 Bedroom Apartments Available
For seniors 62+ or handicapped/disabled
Federally subsidized rent based on 30% of
adjusted gross income, income limits apply.
LOCATED NEAR DOWNTOWN
within walking distance of grocery store, post office,
clinic, bank, beauty shop, bar serving food and church.
Managed by Barron County Housing Authority
For availability and more information
Call 715-537-5344, email
hpm@barroncountyha.com
barroncountyha.com



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Become a Direct Care Professional!

Learn about local options to become a Direct Care Professional by contacting the ADRC at 715-537-6225. Self-employment and free training information available

**ADRC**
Aging and Disability Resource Center
of Barron and Rusk Counties



By Barbara Petersen

Oktoberfest Book Sale

Oktoberfest is rapidly approaching on Saturday, October 3! We are busy getting our book sale ready for you. When we have good weather, the town of Dallas is “hopping.” Hopefully, you will make a visit to the Dallas Library book sale. Many people like to shop at the Dallas Lutheran rummage sale, which goes from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. We plan to have similar hours and are right

The Book Report

Dallas Public Library

across the street. We will have both the north and south doors open for your convenience. Proceeds from our sale will be used for supplies for community activities held here.

New to Us

New to Us this month are plans to have a silent auction during the election on Nov. 3. We have a number of details to finalize before our plans come to fruition. We do have some nice prizes to offer. The Board also plans to have a bake sale. We appreciate all donations! There will be more

about these two events in the next Hay River Review as well as on Facebook.

Story Time on Saturdays

Saturdays, we plan to hold story time and activities at 10 a.m. After a little play time, the reading of a story will start at 10:30 a.m. There will also be creative activities including coloring, puzzles, and indoor/outdoor play. The themes for October include Fall, Harvest, and Halloween.

Wits Works in September

Wits Works (ADRC sponsored program) continues on October 8. The one-hour session on the second Thursday of each month, from 1:00 to 2:00, helps us to activate and improve our memories. The sessions are free, and you can attend the ones that fit your schedule. This hour becomes a good workout session for your brain. We also enjoy a chance to socialize with other people as well as challenge ourselves with puzzles and games. The topic for October is Savor the Seasons! Join us on the 8th for some fun with others who are challenging themselves as well as having a good time.

Library Board Meeting

Our next Library Board Meeting is October 1 at 6 p.m. The public is encouraged to join us.

Stay Connected

Library hours
Tuesday and Thursday- 2 to 6 p.m.
Saturday- 9 a.m. to noon.

Like us on Facebook! Dallas Library - WI.

Email: dplibrary2018@gmail.com.

Mailing address: Dallas Public Library, P.O. Box 84, Dallas, WI 54733.

Physical address: 100 Dallas Street W., Dallas, WI.

Phone: 715-837-1186 (Shared with the village- feel free to leave a message)

**Thank you
for reading!
Please consider
subscribing.**

...“Alfalpa” cont’d. from front



Now that the dust has finally settled, members of the Alfalfa Fest executive team passed on funds from this year’s event to six local schools. *Photos submitted by Judy Lehman*

Squeals, Smiles, and Ridgeland Civic Club Spirit

By Betty Glaser

Whew! We all survived the busy activities of Labor Day and are now settling back in and preparing for winter. Many Civic Club members volunteered countless hours leading up to the fair, during the festivities, and afterward to help make the event a success.

While I was volunteering at the Ridgeland Area Library Book Sale, I could hear the squeals of excitement coming from the rides in Village Park. At the end of the day, parents were slowly making their way up the hill while the children were either still bouncing with energy from a sugar high or struggling to put one foot in front of the other. Either way, it was a successful fair and a wonderful event for the Ridgeland community.

At our last meeting, we spent some time reflecting on what we are most thankful for. Without hesitation, everyone shared the same sentiment: the fun we have together as a group. Being part of the Civic Club means different things to each of us, but one thing remains constant. Whether we see each other only once a month or more often, our meetings are filled with laughter, friendship, and support. They provide an opportunity not only to work together but also to listen to



The Ridgeland Civic Club always looks forward to the Labor Day parade! *Photos submitted by Betty Glaser*

one another and check in on how everyone is doing.

As we look ahead to our next community project, we are seeking assistance from community members. As many of you know, last year was our first season with a commercial-grade ice rink. We learned a great deal and are looking for ways to improve both our maintenance efforts and the skating surface this winter.

Once again, the RD Elementary maintenance team will help with major snow removal under the coordination of Neil Shipley. We are, however, looking for volunteers who can help clear snow between larger cleanups to keep the rink safe and enjoyable for everyone.

We're also calling on the talents of our local mechanics and engineers. We'd love to create our own homemade

"Zamboni" to smooth the ice, possibly something that could be pulled behind a snowblower. If you have ideas or would like to tackle this project, we'd love to hear from you. The Civic Club is willing to cover the cost of materials needed to build it.

Finally, we plan to install the ice rink on Saturday, October 31, at 10:00 a.m. We need volunteers to help lay the tarp and complete the installation. If you can spare an hour or more, please stop by and bring your positive energy. Many hands make light work, and together we can help make another great season of skating possible for our community.

If you like to consider coming to a Ridgeland Civic Club meeting, we meet the third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Ridgeland Area Library.

Bearcats



#5 Brodie Cutris is being escorted into the end zone by #2 Owen Anderson. The Bearcats would go on to prevail over the New Auburn Trojans, 62-28, on September 10. Later last month, the Bearcats went on to beat Turtle Lake during the homecoming matchup, 58-18. *Photo submitted by Jonathan Frarck*

Charity Rib Cook-off

On Sept. 12, the Prairie Farm community came together at the Packer Inn for an evening of friendly competition and giving back. Fifteen teams competed for the title of best ribs while raising money for nonprofit organizations of their choice. Together, the teams raised more than \$6,000 and served an impressive 90 racks of ribs in less than an hour. The event was a great example of what can happen when a community comes together to support a great cause. This benefited local sports teams, Alfalfa Fest, churches, fire departments, and more! *Photos submitted by DM MICK*



Prairie Farm Physical Therapy & Rehab Specialists

NO REFERRAL REQUIRED
MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED!

SPECIALIZING IN:
ORTHOPEDICS, POST OPERATIVE CARES, JOINT PAIN,
BALANCE & STABILITY, SPORTS MEDICINE,
INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE, VESTIBULAR REHAB,
VERTIGO/ DIZZINESS, DRY NEEDLING

SPORTS MEDICINE PROVIDER OF THE PRAIRIE FARM SCHOOL DISTRICT

224 S RIVER AVE,
PRAIRIE FARM
 715-455-4103

Silver Creek Lutheran Church

EXTENDS AN INVITATION TO EVERYONE TO JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL FALL

Soup & Sandwich Luncheon & Bake Sale

Sunday, November 1st, 10:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Arland Town Hall - 653 9th Ave. Clayton, WI

Menu: Variety of Homemade Soups, Build your own Sandwich, Milk, Coffee and Bars.

Free Will Offering