

Letters

Says beware of supremacists who masquerade as protectors of the fatherland

Ironically, the very people who view homosexuality as a virulent pestilence and choose to combat its spread by instituting a gag order against even pronouncing the word "Gay" in classrooms are, themselves, among the most vociferous advocates for unmasking the mouth during an outbreak of actual communicable disease.

If these "Protectors" of our society believe ho-

mosexuality is an airborne pathogen that can invade the ears of our most vulnerable members, our children, why not let its mention circulate unabated, as they insist we allow the transmission of Covid to do?

The fact is homosexuality is not contagious, nor is it a threat to human health, except when it is banded about as cause for persecution. It is as natural

and, I dare say, as genetically determined (if not God-given) as eye color or skin color.

Beware of supremacists who masquerade as Protectors of the Fatherland and would institute purity laws. They are a virulent strain that knows no bounds.

**Michael Doran
Ladysmith**

Says Democrat Party is on the wrong side of every single issue; then lists them

"The democrat party is on the wrong side of every single issue—borders, law enforcement, parents vs. teachers, inflation, Critical Race Theory, school choice, cancel culture, lockdowns, masks, individual freedom, gasoline prices, pipelines, wokeism, unrestricted abortions, and an unelected masquerade president who has dementia, just to name a few." Ron Ross - americanthinker.com

Democrat leaders were cheering on and praising Antifa and the BLM protesters before the 2020 elections, as entire neighborhoods in Democrat-run cities went up in flames. Democrat leaders renounced our police forces as racists and defunded urban law enforcement agencies.

As a result, Democrat-run cities are a train wreck! Miles of tents, with homeless and drug addicts lining their highways. Areas that were once major tourist attractions are now too dangerous to visit and completely overrun with opioid addicts. Violent crime and murder rates are through the roof! Because of these Democrat policies black neighborhoods are especially paying the price. due to unchecked violence.

Our southern border is a complete disaster, thanks to the Joe Biden and the woke anti-American crowd he has assembled. Leftist Democrats have leveraged race-baiting to push for open borders. We now have record numbers of unvetted illegals from over 30 countries crossing our southern border. Many are funded by the UN, and cartels, to travel to the United States. Most are slaves of the drug cartels and will be indentured for the rest of their lives. So, Democrat open border policies are aiding and abetting human trafficking and criminal drug cartels.

Now Joe Biden and the Dems want to end Title 42, which prevents people from entering the U.S. if suspected of posing a serious communicable disease health risk. We know that thousands of people crossing our southern border are infected with numerous serious diseases. They are not vetted or required to receive COVID or other vaccinations. They are put on a bus or plane and transported around the country.

Meanwhile, LEGAL immigrants are required to go through months of red tape and receive the

COVID-19 and other vaccines to enter the country.

Radical leftist Democrats have also been using government schools to push sexual perversion, anti-America, and anti-Christian propaganda to our children for decades. Sally may not be able to read or write very proficiently when she graduates but will be well versed in her understanding of gender fluidity, and the use of gender pronouns. Did I mention that Sally entered kindergarten as Johnny, but after receiving his reeducation, Johnny is now Sally?

Thanks to globalist Democrat policies, Sally will emerge from college as an America-hating Communist. She will reject the Christian faith of her parents and be ready to become part of The New World Order global citizens' initiative.

America cannot survive these Democrats and their disastrous policies any longer.

"Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions." Jesus, Matthew 7:20

**Timothy Jerry
Ladysmith**

Says people should use the sun, wind, imagination to make world a better place

What does a grown-up do? Does a grown-up try to personally solve the problem or does a grown-up blame someone else for the problem?

What are the problems today? We have all heard, Oh, inflation. Oh, gas prices. Oh, immigration. Oh, covid pandemic. Oh, those darn politicians and school administrators and others complaining about problems.

What to do instead of just complaining? Use your chainsaw. Rusk County has many square miles of forest land. You can cut up and use the tops and other wood the loggers can't use to heat your home. You need a permit from the county forester and ambition. Also, every privately-owned forest in your neighborhood has the innumerable dead wood and broken trees already dry and ready to burn. Also, plant trees. We could even get back to the ethic, "If you don't need it, don't buy it."

On a wider front, compared to Europe, India,

China and Southeast Asia the United States and Canada are still extremely underpopulated. Immigrants to this country have no trouble finding job. So I say give them the opportunity your ancestors sought. Since colonial times, the elites of this country have denied opportunity to black, native and Asian inhabitants. Do you, through your elected officials, want to do the same, denying others opportunities.

Getting back to health and climate. Get every vaccine available. Close off space rooms. Retire your toaster, maybe your four wheeler and outboard motor. Drive and flush less. Raise a garden, rabbit, chicken or steer. Vote for office holders who want to initiate change, not just complain because things have changed and blame those who have initiated changes to level the playing field.

Finally, act with responsibility and respect and try to teach your children to act with responsibility and respect so that educators can teach instead

of just coaching and baby sitting.

On that same topic, I can't get away with saying professional sports are a bad thing but where would those sports entertainers and millionaires be if we didn't train our school kids to think of sports?

Nor, can I force you to live like Sasquatch or even like the Amish.

Sorry, but I believe if we all started to think and act more like them it would help the world's climate and fairness.

In the future, we should try to use the sun, the wind at our backs and our imaginations to make a better world for all our fellow men.

I would write more often if I didn't hate sounding so pompous and all-knowing but the horrible weather and political events make me do it when I do.

**Larry Krajewski
Bruce**

Metaphalia storms into area for a visit, so het up she didn't even want a bourbon

Last week Metaphalia, muse of the Jump River and insignificant other of Sasquatch, stormed down here for another visit. I mean she was so het up she didn't even want a bourbon. She just wanted to vent.

It seems a Canadian mining company, Green Light Metals, owns the mineral rights to about 12 sections [one-third of a township] west of the Mondeaux Flowage in the Chequamegon-Nicolet national forest. The Bend volcanogenic massive sulfide [VMS]

lies within this area. The company is asking permission to drill exploratory holes looking for copper and gold.

People have panned for gold in the Jump River. Metaphalia was so frustrated because even she does not fully understand the nature and geology of the ground and surface water of the area. There is no way to mine for metals without causing chemical pollution. The endangered Mondeaux River is a tributary of the Jump River which flows into Lake

Holcombe. The Jump River is becoming known for fishing, floating and boating. Think of the Sheldon canoe race. Fish caught in the Jump River and Lake Holcombe are still safe to eat.

Metaphalia insists that the permanent contamination of mining this area is not worth the short-term profit. The Penokee mining moratorium should be extended to the Bend [Mondeaux] area.

**Myrna Mauch
Portage**

Opinion

Editorial

Not the best time to give out school raises

The Ladysmith School Board not only gave most school staff a raise last week, but likely one of the biggest pay jumps of the century when calculating the value of the entire package.

Granted this century is only about one-fourth complete, so there is plenty of time left in the next 75 years for bigger school pay hikes.

This is not an argument that school staff are not deserving of a raise. In fact, it is about time all employees no matter where they work receive just compensation for the good work they do. Too often workers in this area have been asked to do more with less, continually falling behind their peers in similar workplaces elsewhere. Instead of justifying low wages being paid on the tired motto "It costs less to live here, this is an argument to start building up good workers rather than continuing to tear them down simply based on their decision to live in one of the best parts of the state. Their reward for this place of residence should not be taken advantage of.

The only good thing for this latest Ladysmith school raise is the

higher pay might help attract new teachers to apply for school jobs in this area.

However, the timing by the school board to finally make this decision that has been a long time coming could not have been more wrong.

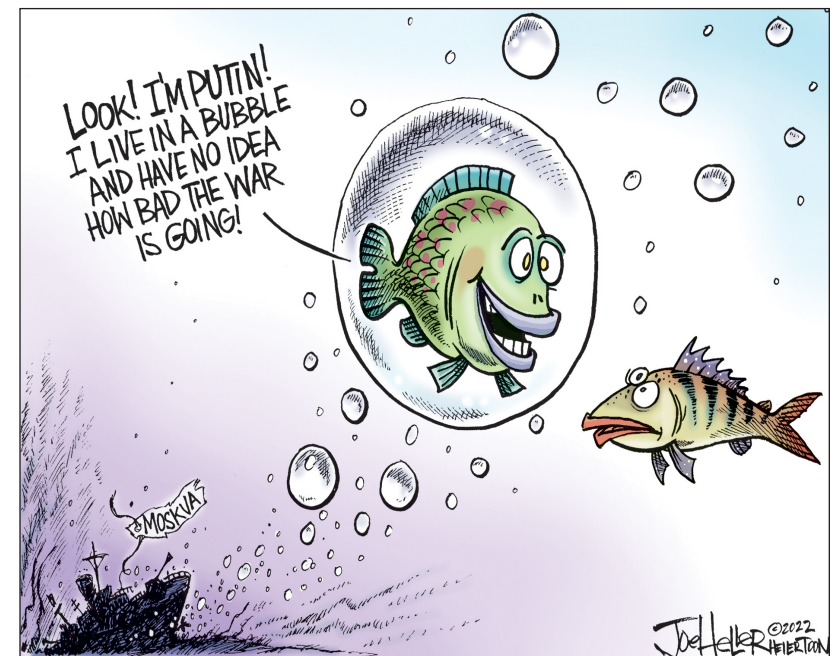
Do not start handing out raises one week after school district taxpayers graciously passed a \$21 million building referendum and a second referendum that lets the district generate an additional \$600,000 in property tax revenue for each of the next five years.

Rightfully, school officials have been excessive in thanking the community for voting to approve the two referendums.

Wrongfully, school officials made one of their first official actions after these two important votes one that gives almost everyone -- leaving out only administrators -- a raise.

But the board was told a raise package would be coming soon for administrators. Not the best time.

Ladysmith News editorials are written by news staff



Letters to the editor

All letters to the editor must be signed and the writer's name will be printed. The writer's full address and telephone number must be included on all letters.

Names will not be withheld. All material submitted must be original. Poetry and "thank you" letters will not be accepted.

Letters may be 500 words or less. Only one letter every four weeks will be accepted from any group, organization or individual. The Ladysmith News may edit letters and limit responses. The deadline for letters is 5 p.m. Monday for that week's paper.

Letters promoting specific candidates will not be run the week prior to an election.

Letters may be mailed to Ladysmith News, P.O. Box 189, Ladysmith, WI 54848, or e-mailed to editor@ladysmithnews.com.

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The Capitol Report

State crime labs performance possible issue in attorney general race

By WisPolitics.com

There's a big race for governor this fall. And maybe even a bigger race for U.S. Senate.

Another race to watch: the contest for Wisconsin's "top cop," the state attorney general.

Democratic Attorney General Josh Kaul, a former federal prosecutor, is in his first term and running for another four years.

Republicans will have an August primary to decide his opponent.

In the meantime, a recent report highlights a possible issue in the fall race.

The state crime labs were better at turning around DNA cases submitted in 2021 than the year before.

But it took longer, on average, to process them, according to the Department of Justice's annual report on the Division of Forensic Sciences.

GOP attorney general candidates Adam Jarchow and Eric Toney both knocked the incumbent for the lab's performance under his watch.

But Kaul, who's up for reelection this fall, argued in an interview the state is on the right track with the crime lab after a challenging 2020 due to COVID-19 that forced a reorganization to account for safety protocols.

He also noted Gov. Tony Evers has announced \$5 million in federal COVID-19 funds for the labs as part of an effort to address a backlog of criminal cases that built up during the pandemic, which hampered court proceedings.

"It's back to a downward trend," Kaul said of processing DNA cases. "Compared to where it was four-five years ago, you can see we're moving in the right direction when it comes to DNA analysis."

The lab is broken into several sections, including DNA analysis. According to the report, the state's labs took in 3,612 cases for DNA analysis in 2021 and completed 3,526. The average time to turn around a case was 128 days.

In 2020, the labs took in 3,820 cases, processed 3,144 and had an average turnaround of 94 days.

The caseload for both years was lower than in 2018, the year before Kaul took office.

In the DNA section, there were 8,626 cases submitted for DNA analysis in 2018, and the lab-processed 5,664. The average turnaround time was 80 days.

The number of pending DNA analysis cases has fluctuated since 2017, which marked the halfway mark of Republican Brad Schimel's term.

On Oct. 31, 2018, the number of DNA cases awaiting process peaked at 1,694 over that period. That included 978 that had been waiting less than 90 days for analysis and 650 that had been waiting longer than that.

That dropped to 689 on Sept. 30, 2019, before beginning to tick up. During the pandemic, it peaked at 1,274. As of last month, it was 656. The number of cases on March 31, 2022, included 455 that had been awaiting analysis for less than 90 days and 201 more than that.

Still, the overall number of cases submitted is lower than it was under Schimel. In 2017, there were 15,795 cases and in 2018 there were 12,680 submissions in all categories. For 2021, there were 9,297.

In other areas:

■ In the chemistry section, there were 4,430 controlled substances cases submitted and 3,522 processed with an average turnaround of 61 days. In 2020, there were 3,813 cases submitted and 3,675 processed with an average turnaround of 44 days.

The chemistry section also completed 4,078 toxicology cases while taking in 4,073.

Kaul requested four toxicologists in his 2021-23 budget proposal, but the GOP-controlled Joint Finance Committee rejected the ask. It instead approved funding for more lab equipment.

■ The crime scene response team handled 155 cases, up from 104 in 2020. It took an average of 54 days

from reporting to the scene to finalizing the report, up from 49 days in 2020.

■ The labs received 84 cases in forensic imaging and processed 71 with an average turnout of 70 days. In 2020, it processed 77 cases and received 86 with an average turnout of 56 days.

■ The labs received 1,000 cases of latent prints and footwear with 963 processed and an average turnaround of 71 days. In 2020, it received 941 and processed 840 and an average turnaround of 55 days.

The crime labs had 178.4 full-time equivalent authorized positions, with 167.4 filled. As of Dec. 23, 2018, there were 170 authorized positions, with 164 filled, according to DOJ.

Fond du Lac District Attorney Eric Toney, who's running for attorney general, accused Kaul of trying to "bury his abysmal failure of mismanaging the crime lab."

He said Kaul is limiting the amount of evidence that law enforcement can submit to the lab to improve turnaround times.

The agency has put a series of guidelines in place on how samples should be submitted to the labs.

"Wisconsin can't afford another 4 years of Kaul's failures," Toney said.

Meanwhile, fellow GOP attorney general candidate Adam Jarchow, a former state lawmaker, slammed Kaul for blaming turnaround times on the pandemic.

"There is no more important core function of government than keeping citizens safe and solving crimes, so blaming COVID for longer turn-around times of DNA testing is unconscionable," Jarchow said.

For more, visit WisPolitics.com.

The Capitol Report is written by the editorial staff at WisPolitics.com, a nonpartisan, Madison-based news service that specializes in coverage of government and politics and is distributed for publication by members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association.

NOTICE
Village of Bruce
DESTRUCTION OF NOXIOUS WEEDS
 According to the Village of Bruce Ordinance Sec. 8-1-4, Every person is required by law to destroy all noxious weeds (includes any weed, grass, or similar growth) on lands in the Village which he/she owns, occupies or controls. If the owner or occupant of any lands neglect to destroy any weeds as required by such notice the Village shall give a five (5) day notice by mail to the owner. If no action is taken to destroy the weeds the Village will do so and the cost will be assessed as a tax upon which land such weeds are located.
 By Order of the Bruce Village Board
 Dated this 20th day of April, 2022
 Jessica Hayes, Clerk/Treasurer

NOTICE
DESTRUCTION OF NOXIOUS WEEDS AND REGULATION OF LENGTH OF LAWNS AND GRASSES
 The City of Ladysmith requires lawns to be cut and weeds destroyed. City of Ladysmith Ordinance Sec. 8-1-5 and Sec. 8-1-7 prohibits weeds and grass from exceeding eight (8) inches in length. These Ordinances and the Wisconsin Statutes allow the City of Ladysmith to send out seven (7) day written notices to the owner of properties that neglect their responsibility of caring for their lawn.
 If the lawn is not cut and the 7 days expires, the City of Ladysmith will have the lawn cut and the cost thereof will be billed to the address the work was performed. Second and subsequent violations, if one notice has been sent in any one calendar year, no further notices for additional violations on the same property are required in that calendar year.

On-line poll
 (Last week's question and result)

Do you do anything to celebrate Earth Day?

- 33.3% Yes
- 63.9% No
- 2.8% Not sure

To vote on this week's new poll question:
 How would you rate the condition of the street you live on?
 go to www.ladysmithnews.com