

WEEKEND:

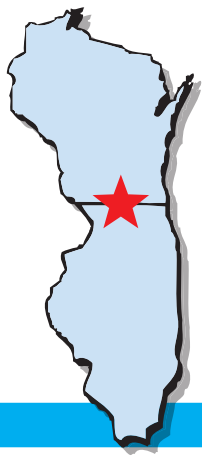
Foundry presents comedic show

On A5

SPORTS:

Homers aplenty in Brewers loss

On B1



Weekend

Daily News



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Beloit Fire Department reorganizing staff ranks

By JACOB ROUSHIA Staff Writer

BELOIT—The Beloit Fire Department administrative staff will be reorganized to include only one deputy chief in the coming weeks.

Currently there are two deputy chiefs—Jason Griffin and Joe Murray. Murray will be retiring effective July 15.

Griffin is currently acting as South Beloit Fire Chief, spending up to 10 hours a week at the South Beloit department.



Griffin

“The fire department is going through a reorganization process to a more modern operational structure,” said Sarah Lock, City of Beloit Director of Strategic Communications.

The new hierarchy that will be put in place this summer will be as follows, according to Lock.

- One fire chief
- One deputy chief
- Three Battalion chiefs
- Other ranks in the

department include: Captains, Master Fire Mechanic, Fire Mechanic, Lieutenant, Acting Lieutenant, Motor Pump Operator, Firefighter, Firefighter-Paramedic.

Lock said in a written statement to the Beloit Daily News that the intent is to do an internal promotional process for the deputy chief position, which is second in



Clint Wolf/Beloit Daily News

Beloit Fire Department Deputy Chief Joe Murray sits in his office at Fire Station 1. Murray will retire from the department on July 15 following 28 years with the Beloit department.

command in the fire department. She said a nationwide recruitment process is underway to fill the three battalion chief positions, but internal candidates also can apply.

Beloit Fire Chief Daniel Pease will make recommendations for who will fill the deputy chief and battalion chief positions.

“All recommendations will go publicly before the Beloit Police & Fire Commission,” Lock noted. “The Beloit Police and Fire Commission will be making the final decision on the deputy chief position.”

This new system will open three more battalion chief positions that the department did not have before.

“We do not have any current battalion chiefs as the battalion chief position was recently created in the restructuring process,” Lock noted.

The battalion chief positions fill the role of the third office in charge, right below the deputy chief.

See Staff, A2

Closing ‘loophole’ in gun law may impact domestic violence

National gun reform has area implications

By SARA MYERS Adams Publishing Group

BELOIT- The new national gun law that President Joe Biden recently signed may help prevent some domestic violence cases involving guns in the Rock County area by closing the “boyfriend loophole.”

According to NPR, Biden signed new gun reform legislation June 25 which also closed the “boyfriend loophole.” Previously, if a person was married or co-habiting and convicted of violent acts against their partner, the offending party could not purchase a gun for a period of time. However if the couple was not married or living together, the offending party could buy a gun with no restrictions.

The new legislation closed the loophole, but with a catch. According to NPR, the provision allows people who are convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence to have their gun rights restored if their record is clean for five years.

John Pfeleiderer, executive director of Family Services of Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois, told the Daily News, use of firearms in domestic violence situations can have deadly consequences.

See Gun, A2

Sales tax on groceries suspended in Illinois

CHICAGO (AP)—The sales tax on groceries in Illinois will be suspended for a year starting Friday, under the state budget approved in April.

The state’s tax relief program will also postpone a gas tax increase until January, and cut school supply taxes from 6.25% to 1.25% from Aug. 5 to 14.

“Starting tomorrow, every Illinoisan will get tax relief on essentials: groceries, gas, your home, and back-to-school supplies, with even more tax relief going into effect next year,” Gov.

J.B. Pritzker said in a news release.

The measures are part of a \$1.8 billion state tax-break deal signed by Pritzker in April. GOP leaders derided the measures as a campaign tool for Pritzker and other Democrats in an election year.

The plan also provides automatic \$50 income tax rebates for individuals who made less than \$200,000 in 2021, \$100 for couples filing jointly who made less than \$400,000, and \$100 per dependent claimed in 2021, up to three.

Additionally, the Illinois state earned income credit will increase from 18% to 20% of the federal credit, and eligible homeowners will receive property tax rebates equal to their 2021 property tax credit, up to \$300.

Illinois’ 1% sales tax on groceries will be suspended through June 30, 2023, which will net \$400 million in consumer savings, the governor’s release said.

The state is one of just 13 in the nation that charges a sales tax for groceries.

Lawmakers across the country are enacting tax

relief measures like the ones in Illinois, in part in response to inflation, according to Tax Foundation senior policy analyst Katherine Loughead.

The temporary elimination of the grocery tax represents “just a small amount of relief because there’s only a 1% levy on groceries as it is,” she said. “It will go back into effect July 1 of 2023.”

Chicago grocery shopper Bob Goldberg said inflation is “out of control,” and a 1% difference won’t matter much for the average consumer.

See Tax, A2

No paper on Monday

There will be no Beloit Daily News published on Monday in observance of the July 4 holiday.

The Beloit Daily News business office at 444 E. Grand Ave., Suite 102, will be close on Monday. The office will reopen on Tuesday, July 5.

INSIDE: Advice & Comics • A6, A7, B5 | Classifieds • B6-8 | Records • A4 | Sports • B1-4 | Stateline • A3 | Weather • A8 | Weekend • A5



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Lotteries

Wisconsin

Supercash
1, 11, 25, 33, 35, 38

Pick 3—Midday: 571
Pick 3—Evening: 025

Pick 4—Midday: 5557
Pick 4—Evening: 0012

Badger 5: 16, 20, 26, 29, 30

All or Nothing—Midday:
1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9

10, 14, 17, 18, 19

All or Nothing—Evening:
1, 4, 7, 11, 13, 14

15, 16, 19, 21, 22

Illinois

Pick 3—Midday: 976
Pick 3—Evening: 240

Pick 4—Midday: 3722
Pick 4—Evening: 5470

Lucky Day Lotto—Midday:
2, 21, 27, 39, 41

Lucky Day Lotto—Evening:
1, 16, 20, 32, 40

Lotto: 2, 9, 15, 18, 22, 32

Extra Shot: 11

Lotto Jackpot: \$6.35M

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Inflation up 6.3% compared to last year

WASHINGTON (AP)—A measure of inflation that is closely tracked by the Federal Reserve jumped 6.3% in May from a year earlier, unchanged from its level in April.

Thursday's report from the Commerce Department provided the latest evidence that painfully high inflation is pressuring American households and inflicting particular harm on low-income families and people of color.

The report also said that consumer spending rose at a sluggish 0.2% rate from April to May. Consumer spending is beginning to weaken in the face of high inflation. But it's still helping fuel inflation itself, especially as demand grows for services ranging from airline tickets and

hotel rooms to restaurant meals and new and used autos.

"It should really come as no surprise that U.S. consumers are paring their spending due to the high costs of, well, almost everything," Jennifer Lee, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets, wrote in a research note. After adjusting for inflation, she noted, consumer spending actually fell 0.4% from April to May.

On a month-to-month basis, Thursday's report showed, prices rose 0.6% from April to May, up from the 0.2% increase from March to April.

Chronically high inflation has become a leading threat to the economy and a political hazard for President Joe Biden and Democrats as midterm elections near. Seventy-



Nam Y. Huh—staff, AP

A woman checks her credit cards at a gas station in Palatine, Ill., Thursday, June 30, 2022.

nine percent of U.S. adults describe the economy as poor, according to a new survey from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. Inflation is eclipsing the healthy 3.6% unemployment rate as a

focal point for Americans who are struggling, in particular, with high gasoline and food prices.

In response, the Fed has embarked on a series of aggressive interest rate hikes that are intended to slow growth by making

borrowing more expensive but that also risk causing a recession. Two weeks ago, the Fed raised its key rate by three-quarters of a point—its largest hike in nearly three decades—and signaled more large rate increases to come.

The Fed tends to monitor Thursday's inflation gauge, called the personal consumption expenditures price index, even more closely it does the government's better-known consumer price index. While the components of the two indexes differ—CPI tends to weigh gasoline and housing costs more heavily and to show higher inflation—the two gauges tell the same basic story: Inflation is running dangerously hot.

Tax

From Page A1

"That 1%'s not gonna be felt," the 72-year-old retiree said. "If you want to do something,

get the gas down to where it was a year ago."

Illinois charged about 55 cents more per gallon for gas than the national average for Thursday, according to the American Automobile

Association.

Zubin Shroff of Winfield—about 35 miles west of Chicago—said he felt the pinch of fuel cost the whole way during a recent road trip from Boston. But he said the prices were

steepest in Illinois.

"The \$5.80 we're paying is way higher than anywhere in the country," the 48-year-old said.

The state's \$0.39 gas tax rate was scheduled to increase on July 1,

but now will not go into effect until 2023.

Shroff called the tax suspensions a "token gesture" by Pritzker. "No one's gonna turn it down, say no. But is it meaningful, tangible relief? I don't think so."

Gun

From Page A1

"We do know that the use of firearms in domestic violence is a significant problem," he said.

Pfleiderer said data provided by End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin states that 52% of 2020 domestic violence homicides in Wisconsin involve firearms, and since 2005 firearms have been the most common weapon of choice in Wisconsin

homicides. Guns were used more often than all other methods combined.

National Domestic Violence Hotline recorded data shows one in three callers reported being threatened with a gun by their abuser.

"The problem with access to guns for perpetrators is they're so effective at causing harm and hurting people and the access to guns makes it easier for domestic violence," Pfleiderer said.

Kelsey Hood-Christenson, director of

Survivor Empowerment Services at Family Services, adds that any way we can recognize an increased variety of relationships to not just married or living together is helpful to protector victims and survivors of domestic abuse.

"The challenge has been with the loophole that the relationships (of those who are not married) experience the same risk, but not the same responses," Hood-Christenson said.

At her job, Hood-Christenson sees a vari-

ety of abuse survivors in the Beloit area. They include people who were married, not married, living with their partner, and individuals who survived teenage dating violence.

Domestic violence between unmarried and married couples is a problem in Beloit and Rock County, just as it is across the country.

Shawna Greer, a Beloit mother of three, was shot and killed in what police called a domestic violence incident on Jan. 26 at a home in the 1400 block of Madison Road. Anthony Richmond was arrested on suspicion of the shooting on the possible charges of first-degree intentional homicide and possession of a stolen firearm. However, Richmond, Greer's ex-boyfriend, was not charged in Greer's death. The charges were not filed reportedly due to conflicting reports given to law enforcement about the shooting

incident.

Richmond was released from custody on Jan. 28 on condition that he not possess any weapons, have no contact with Greer's family and was ordered to not leave the state.

Following Greer's death, her sister Erica Miller told the Daily News in February that the family wanted justice for her sister's untimely passing. Miller said Greer "loved life and enjoyed making the most of each day."

Miller wanted to send a message to victims of suspected domestic violence.

"When they show you who they truly are, believe them," Miller said. "Don't let them talk you into staying. At one point in time we have all existed without a partner. If a relationship is abusive, neither of you are happy, so just end the relationship, not a life."

Staff

From Page A1

"Deputy Chief Griffin currently serves in a role that is at the level of battalion chief," Lock noted. "It's too preliminary in the process for me to provide comments on who will be moving into what role at this point. It might be a little

confusing given the current titles vs. roles."

Chief Daniel Pease has been spending part of his time as acting fire chief in the Town of Beloit, just as Griffin is spending part of his time as acting chief in South Beloit.

It is unknown if Griffin will be the sole deputy chief or become a battalion chief under the new system.

AGENDA
BELOIT CITY COUNCIL
City Hall Forum - 100 State Street, Beloit, WI 53511
7:00 PM

Tuesday, July 5, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
 3. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - 3a. Proclamation declaring the month of July 2022 as "Park and Recreation" Month (Forbeck)
 - 3b. Proclamation supporting fair and equitable elections (Forbeck)
 4. PUBLIC HEARINGS
 - 4a. Consideration of Resolution 2022-119 adopting 2023 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Local Funding Priorities (Christensen)
 - 4b. Consideration of Resolution 2022-122 approving applicants for an Alcohol Beverage Operator's (Bartender's) License for years 2021-2023 (Granger)
 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS
 6. CONSENT AGENDA
 - 6a. Referral to ABLCC: Consider applications for late renewals of Alcohol Beverage Licenses for License period July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023 (Granger)
 - 6b. Consideration of Resolution 2022-122 approving applicants for an Alcohol Beverage Operator's (Bartender's) License for years 2021-2023 (Granger)
 7. ORDINANCES
 - 7a. Consideration of Ordinance No. 3756 to amend 18.02 (15)(v) of the Code of General Ordinances of the City of Beloit authorizing outdoor vending by Bethel AME Church Inc. in Summit Park (Frisbee) First Reading
 - 7b. Consideration of Ordinance No. 3757 to amend 18.02 (15)(w) of the Code of General Ordinances of the City of Beloit authorizing outdoor vending by Hispanos Unidos Rompiendo Fronteras, Inc. for Hispanic Heritage Festival in Riverside Park (Frisbee) First Reading
 8. APPOINTMENTS
 9. COUNCILOR ACTIVITIES AND UPCOMING EVENTS
 10. CITY MANAGER PRESENTATION
 - 10a. Popular Annual Financial Report (Lock)
 - 10b. Reports from Boards and City Officers
 - 10c. Consideration of Resolution 2022-125 awarding Home Investment Partnership (HOME) funds for the 2022-23 Program Years (Christensen)
 - 10d. Consideration of Resolution 2022-126 approving a Request for Proposal for Executive Recruitment Services for the position of City Manager (Krueger)
 11. ADJOURNMENT
- **Please note that, upon reasonable notice, at least 24 hours in advance, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information to request this service, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 364-6680, 100 State Street, Beloit, WI 53511.
- Regular City Council meetings occur on the first and third Mondays of the month. Meetings are televised on Charter Cable Access digital channel 992 and are live streamed via the Beloit Access Television (BATV) YouTube Channel. Council meetings are rebroadcast on Charter Cable Access digital channel 992 and are archived on the BATV YouTube Channel for viewing at your leisure.
- Marcy J. Granger City of Beloit Clerk-Treasurer www.beloitwi.gov
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Published July 1, 2022

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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8	1	2	9	3	5	7	4	6
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