

ABUNDANTLY SUNNY 90 • 66 FORECAST, A6 | THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2022 | journaltimes.com | \$2.00

Trump again pressures Vos

MITCHELL SCHMIDT Lee Newspapers

Donald Trump has again applied pressure on Assembly Speaker Robin Vos for not following the former president's demand that Wisconsin Republicans move to decertify the results of the 2020 presidential election, something Vos and

others have said

is constitution-

ally impossible. While Trump

has previously

pressured Vos

and other state

Republicans to do

more to address

com-

warned

consequences in



Trump



Vos

his upcoming Aug. 9 primary against Adam Steen, a Trump supporter who has been critical of the speaker for not taking the election more seriously

gusto. Robin, don't let the voters of Wisconsin down!"

Trump has asserted that the Wisconsin Supreme Court's ruling earlier this month barring the use of absentee ballot drop boxes in the state means any ballot dropped into a drop box in the 2020 election should be deemed illegal. State Rep. Timothy Ramthun, who is running for governor this fall, has echoed Trump's comments, but has focused his efforts only on the presidential election, and not the dozens of other races, including his own, on the 2020 ballot.

The decision by the state's high court applies to future elections, not past ones, including the 2020 presidential election that Trump lost to President Joe Biden by close to 21,000 votes. A recount, reviews and court decisions have found no evidence of widespread fraud in the election.

Speaking with WISN on Tuesday, Vos said Trump called him last week in another effort to have the Rochester Republican pursue decertification of the now 20-month-old election's results.

"It's very consistent," Vos said of the call. "He makes his cas



Natasha Mullen, sister of the late Da'Shontay King, cries outside the Racine County Courthouse after meeting with the district attorney on Tuesday.

What the video shows

King appeared to have dropped gun, tried to pick it up when he was shot



"Da'Shontay King made a series of decisions that had

said. "I don't know his oppobut feel certain he will do well if Speaker Vos doesn't move with

"This is not a time for him to which I respect. He would like hide, but a time to act!" Trump us to do something different in Wisconsin. I explained to him nent in the upcoming Primary, that it's not allowed under the

Please see PRESSURE, Page A3

BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD

No charges to be filed

Complaint alleged open meeting laws were not followed; DA says there was 'no violation'

RYAN PATTERSON

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BURLINGTON - Members of the Burlington Area School Board will not be charged with violating an open meeting law on Aug. 9,2021.

Racine County District Attorney Patricia Hanson wrote in an email that "the investigation revealed no violation of the open filed."

Attorney Tom Kamenick,

president and founder of the Wisconsin Transparency Project, confirmed that Hanson's office decided not to file charges.

Kamenick filed the civil complaint with Hanson's office on June 2 on behalf of Adrianne Melby whose husband, Aaron Melby, unsuccessfully ran for BASD Board in April. The Melbys' children previously attended Burlington public schools.

Kamenick said Adrianne Melby "is reviewing her options" regarding other legal action against the school board.

The complaint alleged that the BASD board acted improperly in meetings law. No charges will be two ways during an Aug. 9, 2021,

Please see CHARGES, Page A3

ADAM ROGAN, RYAN PATTERSON, DEE HÖLZEL AND HOLLY MYRUP The Journal Times

RACINE - Body camera foot age of the moments surrounding the May 20 fatal police shooting of Da'Shontay King shows King drop a handgun as he ran away from an officer, then bend over and pick up the gun before being shot.

The video was released along with a 27-page decision issued by Racine County District Attorney Patricia Hanson Tuesday, in which Hanson announced her decision not to file any criminal charges against Brenner.

May 20

shot! You're going to get f-ing shot!" Racine Police Officer Zachary Brenner yelled at the outset of the foot pursuit, body camera video and audio shows.

The video and audio were played in public for the first time during a press conference Tuesday evening. They have now been released and are online.

Racine Police Chief Maurice Robinson said during a press not been publicly identified other

Brenner

Brenner believed from the outset of the foot chase that it appeared King had a gun because of how King reached to his waistband. It was not until after King dropped the gun and tried to pick it up again, and after King ignored multiple demands to stop running away, that Brenner opened fire.

Four shots were fired, at least three of which hit King, according to a preliminary autopsy report.

Atlas

King

"Da'Shontay King made a se-"Stop! You're going to get ries of decisions that had tragic consequences," Robinson said; after dropping the gun, King "made the decision to re-arm himself."

> The chase began because, according to police, King was in a 2021 Volkswagen Atlas for which there was an active search warrant. The Atlas, which was a rental, was associated with King and another individual who has

tragic consequences."

Maurice Robinson, **Racine Police Chief**

than by their initials, E.A.S., and month of birth, May 1980.

"Officer Brenner stated that he reviewed the search warrant (for the Atlas) and that he recognized the names (King and E.A.S.) from other recent shooting investigations where the names had been mentioned as being involved, but that he had never had contact with the two people mentioned in the warrant," the DA's decision stated. "Officer Brenner was aware at the time he located the 2021 Volkswagen Atlas, driven by Mr. King, that he was executing a stop of the vehicle to search it and its occupants for firearms. A judge had already found probable cause authorizing the search."

Officers reported that the Atlas had a prior bullet hole in the rear passenger door and that inside the vehicle there was a black balaclava and a baggie with 9.3 grams of cocaine, as well as King's wallet and other personal items.

"This was not a vehicle stop

Please see DECISION, Page A6

CITY OF RACINE

Voters to weigh in, again, on legalizing marijuana

HOLLY MYRUP

holly.myrup@journaltimes.com

ers on Nov. 8 will get to weigh in, now," District 11 Alderman CJ again, on whether they believe Rouse said. marijuana should be legalized.

on actual laws.

"It gives us a good litmus test RACINE – City of Racine vot- of where our voters are at right

On Tuesday evening, the Com-The vote will have no direct effect mon Council passed a resolution

endum to be placed on the Nov. 8 election ballot.

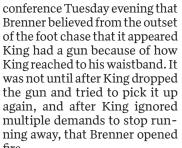
ate an opportunity to vote "yes" or Racine County residents said "no" on the legalization and reg- marijuana should be legalized for

that will allow an advisory refer- ulation of the adult use of mari- recreational use for adults. juana in the State of Wisconsin.

The upcoming referendum This referendum will essentially only serves an advisory purpose. The referendum, passing with a be a repeat of a 2018 county-wide It could be used to gauge pubvote of 10-2, will give the elector- referendum where nearly 59% of lic opinion, but the city cannot

Please see MARIJUANA, Page A3





WEATHER / FROM PAGE ONE

MONDAY

Nice with some

sun

WIND

SSE 7-14 mph

64°

85°/76°

79°/64

0.00"

104° (1930)

47° (1970)

76°

Statistics through 2 p.m. Wednesday

Temperature

Record high

Precipitation

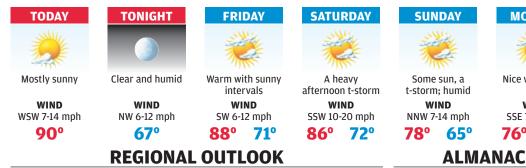
24 hrs through 2 p.m. Wed.

Record low

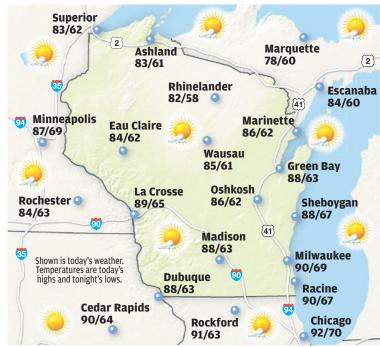
Normal high/low

High/low

RACINE'S FIVE-DAY FORECAST



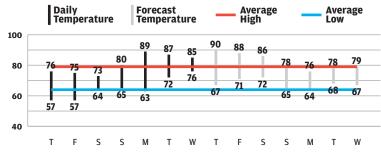
Mostly sunny today; hot in the south and west. A p.m. thunderstorm cannot be ruled out. Clear tonight. Periods of clouds and sunshine tomorrow. Saturday: a heavy afternoon thunderstorm; thunderstorms can be severe. Sunday: a thunderstorm.



REGIONAL FORECAST

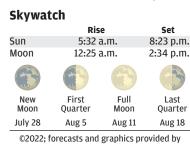
City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Friday Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Friday Hi/Lo/W
Appleton	84/61/s	85/66/pc	Marinette	86/62/s	85/67/pc
Beaver Dam	85/58/s	84/66/t	Marshfield	81/60/s	84/65/s
Brookfield	89/62/s	88/69/pc	Milwaukee	90/69/s	88/72/pc
Burlington	90/60/s	88/69/pc	Monroe	87/62/s	84/69/t
Eau Claire	84/62/s	87/66/s	Oshkosh	86/62/s	87/68/pc
Fond du Lac	88/64/s	87/69/s	Rhinelander	82/58/s	83/64/pc
Green Bay	88/63/s	89/68/pc	Sheboygan	88/67/pc	88/70/pc
Janesville	91/61/pc	89/69/t	Stevens Point	85/60/s	87/66/s
Kenosha	92/65/s	90/71/pc	Superior	83/62/s	86/61/s
La Crosse	89/65/s	88/70/t	Union Grove	92/64/s	92/70/pc
Ladysmith	81/61/s	84/65/s	Waterford	89/61/s	87/69/pc
Madison	88/63/s	86/68/t	Waukesha	88/60/s	86/66/pc
Manitowoc	86/65/s	86/68/pc	Wausau	85/61/s	85/66/s

TEMPERATURE TRENDS



Racine Police Officer Zachary Brenner can be seen pointing his firearm at a fleeing Da'Shontay King as King reaches down to pick up the handgun he dropped, moments prior to Brenner opening fire. The red circle was added by law enforcement.

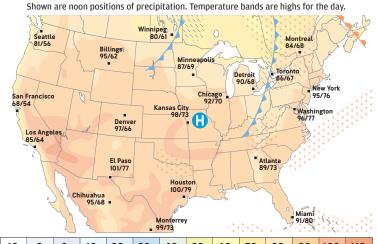
1.79" (2.13") Month to date (normal) Year to date (normal) 15.52" (21.06") Record for this date 2.35" (1912) Pollen Today Grass Absent Trees Absent Weeds Low Mold High Source: National Allergy Bureau **Cooling Degree Days** Degree days are an indicator of energy needs. The more the total degree days, the more energy is necessary to cool. Wednesday 16 Month to date 146 Normal month to date 124 Since January 1 351 Normal since January 1 207 **RealFeel Temperature® Today** An exclusive index of effective temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine intensity, cloudiness, precipita tion, pressure and elevation on the human body. 74 93° 90° 80° 4 p.m. 8 a.m. noon 8 p.m. **UV Index Today** Shown is the highest value of the day. 1 2 3 45 678 10 11+ 0 The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection. **Today's Air Quality** airnow.gov Forecast index based on presence of man-made particulates affecting aspects of human health. ate Unhealthy Unhealthy Very Hazardous Good M (sensitive) Unhealthy



AccuWeather | Go to AccuWeather.com

NATIONAL OUTLOOK

As a potent storm system pushes across northern Quebec, Canada, a trailing front will trigger severe thunderstorms in parts of the Northeast and the Southeast today. Heat will continue over the South Central states and the interior West, extending into the East, especially along the Interstate 95 corridor.



0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100s 110s -10s -0s

				* * * *	0.0.0	.*[*]	*(*)	,	
Cold front	Warm front Stati	ionary front	Showers	T-storms	Rain	Flurries	Snow	Ice	
	Today	Friday				Today	Frid		
City	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	City			i/Lo/W	Hi/L		
Albany	89/69/t	91/67/pc	Mem)1/76/pc	103/7		
Anchorage	59/51/sh	59/50/sh	Mian			l/80/pc	91/80		
Atlanta	89/73/t	90/72/t		ieapolis		7/69/s	92/74		
Atlantic City	87/78/t	90/79/s		kegon		4/67/s	84/7		
Baltimore	97/74/t	96/74/s	Nash			6/72/pc	98/7		
Billings	95/62/s	95/61/pc		Orleans		2/79/t	92/78		
Birmingham	93/76/t	92/74/t		York City		5/76/t	93/70		
Boise	101/67/s	96/63/s		homa City		00/75/t	99/7		
Boston	91/73/t	92/72/s	Oma			4/70/s	95/8		
Buffalo	80/69/t	83/69/t	Orlaı		96	6/75/pc	96/7	6/s	
Chicago	92/70/s	92/74/pc		Idelphia		3/78/t	97/78		
Cincinnati	89/71/s	93/73/s	Phoe			4/91/pc	115/8		
Cleveland	86/70/s	87/69/pc	Pitts	burgh	85	5/68/t	88/6	9/s	
Dallas	98/84/t	101/80/t		land, ME	84	4/67/t	87/66	5/s	
Davenport	90/65/s	88/73/t		land, OR		5/60/pc	81/58		
Denver	97/66/pc	99/71/c		d City	95	5/61/s	99/6	3/pc	
Des Moines	93/68/s	92/79/pc	St. L	ouis	98	3/77/s	100/	82/s	
Detroit	90/68/pc	90/69/pc	St. P	aul	87	7/67/s	92/7	3/s	
Duluth	81/62/s	85/65/pc	Salt	Lake City	10)1/77/s	102/7	77/s	
El Paso	101/77/s	99/76/c		Antonio)2/76/pc	101/7	- / -	
Houston	100/79/pc	98/79/pc		Diego	74	ł/65/pc	72/6	5/pc	
Indianapolis	90/71/s	92/73/s		Francisco		8/54/pc	69/5		
Kansas City	98/73/s	100/80/s	Seat	tle		l/56/pc	75/58		
Las Vegas	111/89/pc	111/89/pc	Tam	Tampa		95/80/t		95/79/t	
Little Rock	100/76/pc	101/77/s		Tucson				34/pc	
Los Angeles	85/64/pc	82/65/s	Wasł	nington, D	C 96	5/77/t	95/7	7/s	
National Extremes Yesterday for the 48 contiguous states									

High: 109° in Needles, CA

Low: 34° in Yellowstone N.P., WY

WORLD FORECAST

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Friday Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Friday Hi/Lo/W
Amsterdam	68/57/sh	69/55/pc	Mexico City	82/58/c	78/59/t
Baghdad	116/86/s	114/83/s	Montreal	84/68/t	84/67/s
Beijing	93/73/s	92/72/pc	Moscow	69/59/sh	77/62/pc
Bermuda	86/79/s	86/78/s	Nassau	87/79/sh	89/79/t
Buenos Aires	62/49/c	59/53/pc	Paris	85/64/pc	84/63/t
Calgary	83/57/s	69/52/c	Rio de Janeiro	77/68/s	79/68/pc
Copenhagen	78/61/t	71/58/pc	Rome	90/70/s	91/70/s
Frankfurt	84/62/pc	87/64/pc	Singapore	87/78/t	87/78/t
Hong Kong	92/83/t	93/83/pc	Sydney	61/55/sh	62/54/sh
Jerusalem	86/64/s	87/65/s	Tokyo	86/77/sh	85/76/t
Johannesburg	61/45/pc	61/46/pc	Toronto	86/67/s	86/68/pc
Kabul	93/73/s	88/74/t	Vancouver	72/58/pc	72/58/pc
Lima	63/59/pc	63/59/c	Vienna	95/70/s	94/69/pc
London	76/62/c	74/59/c	Warsaw	89/65/pc	89/65/t

W-weather, s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, i-ice, r-rain, t-thunderstorms, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow

Charges: IHOP employee stole over \$500 from restaurant

STILL FRAME FROM BODY CAMERA FOOT-AGE, VIA RACINE COUNTY DISTRICT AT-TORNEY'S OFFICE

Decision

From A1

for a traffic violation," the decision continued, "the search warrant itself demanded a higher level of attention and care by its very nature. The search warrant made note of the fact that Mr. King was free on bond after having been charged with possession of a firearm by a felon, a fact that Officer Brenner was aware of from the warrant."

Law enforcement said that Brenner kept photos of King and E.A.S. in his squad car's visor "at all times" after being told about the search warrant for the Atlas on May 17 by an investigator from the Racine County Gang Crime Task Force.

On May 20, after Brenner started his shift as a Community Oriented Policing officer and soon after attempted a traffic stop on the Volkswagen Atlas. The Atlas pulled into a house's driveway moments after Brenner activated his police lights, and King got out of the car and ran.

Brenner

Robinson said Brenner "waited as long as he could" before opening fire.

Brenner "was obviously shaken up by the incident" and "is doing as well as can be expected ... and is ready to come back to work," Robinson said.

Robinson said that Brenner has never faced discipline since he joined the police force in January 2018. He is now to be placed on

Questions

An attorney representing King's family, William Sulton, has questioned whether all four shots were necessary to have been fired and could constitute excessive force.

District Attorney Patricia Hanson disagreed.

"The four shots in this case were fired in less than a second without pause," Hanson said in an email to a reporter Wednesday.

In a phone interview late Tuesday, Sulton questioned why the district attorney made a decision prior to a full autopsy report being made available; the full autopsy is not yet complete due to postponements at state laboratories, delaying the results of toxicology tests, although no parties are disputing that it was the gunshots that killed King.

When asked about Sulton's concern that a charging decision was made before a full autopsy report had been compiled, Hanson said in an email "After reviewing the video and the preliminary autopsy reports, there was no question that Mr. King died from gunshot injuries. The question I needed to answer was whether or not Officer Brenner was authorized to use that deadly force. There were four consecutive shots that caused for (sic) consecutive injuries. One of those injuries caused his death. I do not need the details Mr. Sulton complains of to determine if the use of deadly force was justified.'

Sulton said that he plans to confirm which of the four shots, if it can be determined, actually killed King. If it can be proven that it was one of the subsequent shots that killed King, Sulton said there could be a civil case of excessive force causing death if the first shot would have been enough to subdue King.

administrative light duty for ap- violence in the city. Robinson said proximately 30-45 days while the RPD conducts a further review of May 20.

Brenner has also been enlisted in the Army Reserves for $6^{1/2}$ years; he holds the rank of Army specialist.

Priority: Get guns off the streets

Since soon after becoming police chief, Robinson has aimed to crack down on rising rates of gun make an arrest.

that the Racine Police Department has been intentionally aiming to make arrests against felons in possession of firearms and others wanted for similar gun-related offenses.

To felons in possession of a firearm and others committing crimes, Robinson advised "that you do not have a firearm" and do not commit further crimes if you do not want to be arrested or flee from police officers who seek to

Also allegedly tried to steal alcohol from **Piggly Wiggly**

JOURNAL TIMES STAFF

MOUNT PLEASANT - An IHOP employee has been accused of stealing over \$500 from the restaurant as well as trying to steal alcohol from Piggly Wiggly.

Steven M. Gramza, 28, of the 2100 block of Clarence Avenue, was charged with six felony counts of bail jumping, six misdemeanor counts of bail jumping and misdemeanor counts of theft in a business setting, retail theft intentionally taking less than or equal to \$500 and disorderly conduct.

According to criminal complaints:

First incident

At 1:35 p.m. on May 30, an officer was sent to IHOP at 5800 Durand Ave. for a theft by an employee on May 28.

Upon arrival, the officer spoke with an assistant manager who said Gramza stole \$522.15 from the restaurant. He sold \$522.15 worth of food during his shift and his end total payed to him was \$610.65. He was supposed to give the \$522.15 to IHOP and take the remaining \$88.50 for his shift, but instead took all of the money. The assistant manager spoke to Gramza and he said he spent the money and could not pay it back.

Second incident

At 9 a.m. on Monday, an officer was sent to Piggly Wiggly at 5600 Spring St.

for a man engag -Gramza ing in a fight in

the south entrance of the store. Upon arrival, the officer spoke with a staff member who said he saw a man, later identified as Gramza, enter the store, grab a cart, put a bag in the cart and put multiple bottles of liquor in the bag. He then grabbed a package of hand wipes and put them in the bag.

The staff member tried to stop Gramza at the south doorway and took the bag away from him. Gramza tried to grab the bag back before trying to bull rush the employees to get by them. He eventually gave up and went into the store office. The total of the liquor and hand wipes he tried to steal was \$218.84.

Gramza told the officer he grabbed the liquor and then realized he forgot his wallet. He claimed he was going to get it when the employees grabbed him.

Gramza was given \$1,000 in cash bonds in Racine County Circuit Court on Tuesday. A preliminary hearing is on July 27 at the Racine County Law Enforcement Center, online court records show.

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