

the Woodville LEADER

The Gateway to Western Wisconsin



VOL 92 NUM 42

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH! SEE PGS. 2 & 9!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021

Local woodland owner attends WI Coverts Project Workshop – Part I



Here is a group photo of the attendees of the 2021 Wisconsin Coverts Project workshop held August 12-15 at Kemp Natural Resources Station in Woodruff, WI. Submitted photo

A woodland wildlife management program for private landowners
By Paul J. Seeling
Sun-Argus/Woodville Leader/
Gateway News

SPRING VALLEY, WI – Local woodland owner Dave Sowatzke attended the Wisconsin Coverts Project Workshop August 12-15, 2021, at the Kemp Natural Resources Station in Woodruff, Wisconsin along with 25 other landowners representing 22 properties.

Covert is a 14th century English word describing a dense thicket that provides shelter for wildlife.

The Coverts Workshop consists of three days of indoor sessions and outdoor experience for landowners who want to enhance their woodlands for wildlife.

That is something that Dave Sowatzke was very much interested in doing for his 52 acres of woodland on the Chippewa River that is a second property for the Spring Valley landowner.

Empty nesters Sowatzke and his wife Rosalie looked for quite some

time for land that had water and woods that would be good for fishing and hunting. After purchasing the property with a small house on it; in short order Dave realized that their woodland had not been managed in quite some time, if at all.

He felt that his acreage could be a productive forest that would yield some timber and with that thinning could be a better place for wildlife habitat.

This desire led him to attend a seminar a few years ago conducted by the UW Extension Service that he read about in the Sun-Argus and Woodville Leader. It was there that he learned that every county in Wisconsin has a County Forester and that they are available to help answer forestry questions.

From meeting with his County Forester, Sowatzke worked with the Forester to develop a preliminary management plan for his woodland. It was through this contact that Dave joined the Wisconsin Woodland

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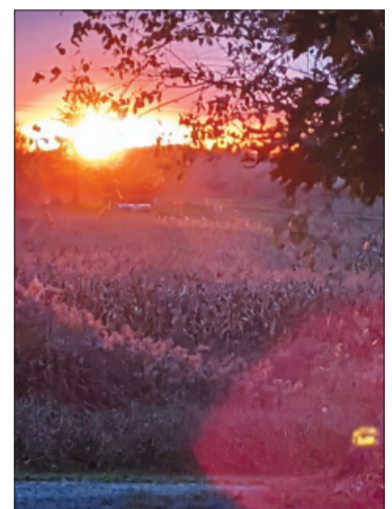


What's inside...



PAGE 5: Celebrate Wisconsin's working forests. Submitted photo

Photo of the week



October sunset behind the corn field. Photo by Paul J Seeling

Submit your photos to editor@mygateway.news for a chance to have them picked as Photo of the Week!

Current results from this month's

Reader Poll

Do you think it's going to be a harsh winter?

Yes – 67%

No – 33%

Vote now at mygateway.news!

Continued on Page 10...

Baldwin-Woodville Class of 1971 holds 50th Class Reunion

Submitted by Jean Mentink, B-W Class of 1971

BALDWIN, WI -- On Saturday, September 25, 2021, 36 members of the Baldwin-Woodville Class of 1971 gathered at the Phoenix Grill & Event Center in Baldwin, Wisconsin to celebrate their 50th Class Reunion.

1971 was an interesting year. According to Wikipedia it was on January 12, 1971, that the landmark television sitcom "All in the Family," starring Carroll O'Connor as Archie Bunker, debuted on CBS. It was on February 13, 1971, that in the Vietnam War backed by American air and artillery support, South Vietnamese troops invaded Laos. On March 5, in Belfast, Ireland a Led Zeppelin show includes the first public performance of "Stairway to Heaven," a song from the band's fourth album. And 50 years ago on April 20, 1971, National Public Radio (NPR) aired its first radio broadcast.

A group photo of those commemorating their Baldwin-Woodville



The Baldwin-Woodville Class of 1971 at their 50th Class Reunion on Saturday, September 25, 2021, at the Phoenix in Baldwin. Submitted photo

High School 50th Class of 1971 Reunion are:

Seated: Dave Hansen, Dale Hudson, Jan (Nawrocki) Traynor, Renee (Blok) Whipple, Jean (Kuchenbaker) Mentink, Gary Stone, Paul Wernlund, and Dennis Peters.
2nd Row: Pat (Bolier) Helgeson,

Sue (Hurten) Nawrocki, Rita (Larson) Goveronski, Kathy (Lind) Wood, Pat (Hagen) Dohmen, Vicki (Hollw) Richter, Sue (Schneider) Melby, Joanne (Hopkins) Larson, Joan (VandeBerg) Kidd, Albert Meyer, Henry Lien, Cheryl Huenink,
Continued on Page 10...

Manufacturing Month includes visit to Syntegon Packaging Technology



Walter Haecki of Syntegon Packaging Technology, LLC displays St. Croix EDC's Manufacturing Month Proclamation next to the company's sign at 869 South Knowles Avenue in New Richmond, Wisconsin. Submitted photo

Submitted by Bill Rubin, St. Croix EDC

HUDSON, WI -- On October 15, Syntegon Packaging Technology, LLC in New Richmond, Wisconsin hosted St. Croix Economic

Development Corporation (EDC) and representatives from the New Richmond Area Chamber of Commerce and City of New

Continued on Page 10...

Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services receives \$6.72 million for broadband

WI Public Service announces \$100 million in ARPA funding for broadband projects

Submitted by Liz Gunderson, Communications Coordinator

ELLSWORTH, WI -- Last week the Wisconsin Public Service Commission announced the winners of its 2022 Broadband Grant Funding Program awarding over \$100 million from the American Rescue Plan

Act (ARPA) for 83 projects including all nine projects submitted by Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services (PPCS).

The nine projects PPCS submitted cover 460 miles of broadband reaching nearly 2,400 homes and businesses in Pierce and St. Croix counties. PPCS worked closely with the Pierce County Economic Development Corporation,

the towns of River Falls, Oak Grove, Trimble, and Ellsworth to bring fiber to the premises in these areas. Each town is utilizing their local ARPA investments as part of the commitment to deliver fiber. These projects will begin in 2022 and are slated to be completed by the spring of 2023.

"We are excited and ready for the challenge to deliver fiber to our

communities. This is a transformational opportunity for residents and the partnerships we have formed with local townships and community members speaks volumes about the importance of connecting residents with reliable, high-speed internet," stated Nate Boettcher, PPCS' president & CEO.

PPCS through its broadband subsidiary SwiftCurrent Connect is cur-

rently working on phase one of its broadband buildout by delivering fiber to 1,500 homes and businesses along a 175-mile stretch. Contractors have been working over the past several weeks and will continue to the end of the year. Over the next several years, PPCS is looking to build 800 miles of fiber and connect 5,500 locations who have largely been underserved by current providers.

"Our goal is to make sure every one of our community members has access to high-speed fiber service. It's an important part of helping our members Live Better. We believe connectivity in our service area is as important as electricity was in the 1930's. Being connected allows our community to stay relevant and

Continued on Page 10...

Health & Wellness Expo

Thursday, October 28, 2021
5:00 - 7:00 PM

WE BELIEVE... in doing all we can to help our patients and community stay as healthy as possible. That's why we want to make sure you have the real facts about the COVID-19 vaccine to help you make a choice you can feel good about.

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...WOODLAND' cont. from Page 1

Owners Association (WWOA). WWOA according to their website (<https://wisconsinwoodlands.org/>) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and an independent, nonpartisan voice who speak for the landowners of Wisconsin. The objectives of the Association are to advance the interests of woodland owners and the cause of forestry. They seek to develop public appreciation for the value of Wisconsin woodlands and their importance in the economy and overall welfare of the state by fostering and encouraging the wise use and management of the woodlands for timber, wildlife, and recreation. WWOA's objectives are for the present and future generations.

In next week's "Local woodland owner attends WI Coverts Project Workshop - Part II" it will report more on the WWOA and the Wisconsin Coverts Project Workshop and how if you are a woodland property owner can learn more about these groups and take advantage of the knowledge they have to offer you.

...REUNION' cont. from Page 1

and Jerry Erickson.

Back Row: Fran Conrad, Mark Hansen, David Paul, Timm Griffin, Gary Albrigton, David Peterson, Jeff King, Carolyn (VanSomeren) Wilson, Lila (Klanderman) Hambleton, Jon Leif Nestigen, Jackie (Webb) Mathison, Jim Diehl, Ron Nelson, and Chuck Hovde.

Congratulations to the Baldwin-Woodville Class of 1971 on the 50th Anniversary of your high school graduation!

...SYNTEGON' cont. from Page 1

Richmond as part of Manufacturing Month in the U.S. The visit included an overview of the company from Syntegon's management team and wrap-up tour of the facility.

St. Croix EDC board president Angela Popenhagen presented Syntegon with a proclamation to recognize the important contributions made by manufacturers in the St. Croix Valley. Walter Haeccki, President and Managing Director accepted the proclama-

tion on behalf of the nearly 170 associates at Syntegon in New Richmond.

According to the proclamation, manufacturing is Wisconsin's top industry sector, producing an estimated \$65+ billion in total output, or almost 20 percent of the state's gross domestic product (GPD); the manufacturing sector boasts over 8,000+ incorporated businesses; and employs one in six workers in the state, or around 475,000+ people.

Syntegon Packaging Technology, LLC offers a wide range of packaging equipment, including wrappers, bag closing & sealers, vertical form fill and seal baggers, carton/tray forming and closing, feeding, and robotic pick-place machines. The modular machines can be integrated to form fully automated lines.

...PPCS' cont. from Page 1

ensures that we have long-term stability and opportunities for future generations." Future information will be released around project timelines in early 2022. Customers can sign up and express interest by going to www.swiftcurrent.coop and clicking on the Check Now button on the main page.

PPCS is an electric distribution cooperative located in Ellsworth, WI serving cooperative members across Pierce, Pepin, St. Croix, and Buffalo counties. In July of 2021, PPCS launched SwiftCurrent Connect, a wholly owned subsidiary, to provide retail fiber service to those residents who are unserved by other providers with reliable high-speed internet service.

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