



Halloween spirit at Pleasant View. **A3**

Butternut Dig Pink returns. **B1**



# PRICE COUNTY REVIEW

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022

## Wisconsin celebrates Indigenous Peoples Day

BY PRICE COUNTY REVIEW

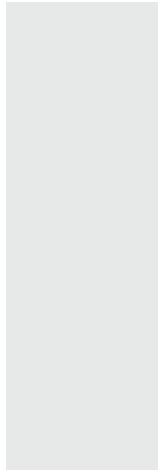
MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers recognized and celebrated Indigenous Peoples Day on Oct. 10, to honor Wisconsin's Native Nations and reaffirming the state's commitment to respecting Tribal Sovereignty and utilizing government-to-government relationships to build a stronger future for the state.

"Today, as we celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day, we are celebrating generations of resilient Tribal communities — communities that have rich cultures, language, and traditions, and a deeply rooted history long before Wisconsin ever became a state," Evers stated in the declaration. "And that history and these traditions, languages, and cultures still prevail today."

First recognized in 2019 when Gov. Evers signed Executive Order No. 50 to annually designate the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day. This is the fourth consecutive year that Wisconsin has celebrated Indigenous Peoples Day.

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## Reeves continues pushing boundaries

BY TOM LAVENTURE  
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PARK FALLS — When the story about the talented Chequamegon High School football player Lexi Harris incorrectly noted she was the first girl to play varsity football at the school, it wasn't long before readers called to mention that Susanna Reeves was in fact the first girl to play varsity football way back in 2005.

Reeves, who was Suzy Koshak back in the day, is now a wife, a new mother of a two month old baby, and recently returned to Park Falls to continue working as a licensed practical nurse who specializes in managed rehabilitation from controlled substances.

Reeves broke barriers to play football and to study for her EMT while in high school. While working as a triage nurse six years ago, she invented her current job by showing a need for patient advocacy.

"Everything I learned in football, the hoops I had to go through, the respect I received from the players and coaches, really has helped me in my job today because I deal with people who have an issue," Reeves said. "I have some that are abusers; I have people who have an addiction, and I just know you gotta understand the whole story before you just assume, 'oh, they can't do it,' or 'they're not good enough to do it.'"

Working with addicts is about getting to the heart of somebody and getting to that motivation, or helping them face something that is preventing them from moving forward, she said. It's not just about counting pills, it's about helping people stick to a plan.

"You need to be a good advocate for them," Reeves said. After graduating high school in 2006, Reeves went on to receive her LPN license

in 2011 from Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton. She went on to work for The daCare, a healthcare system based in the Neenah-Oshkosh area in 2012.

The opioid crisis and a wave of controlled substance addictions were widely out of control in southern Wisconsin, she said. A program presented an opportunity for someone to manage and be an advocate for patients and Reeves took it upon herself to put together the documentation and show how the position would support the patients and work on behalf of the health system.

"I really love dealing with medication," she said. "I have an interest in what it does, how it works in your body, all of that. I've always enjoyed doing the refills and just teaching that aspect of nursing. I absolutely love my job." After six years Reeves was able to work her job remotely and returned to Park Falls with her husband, Stony, a custodian at the Chequamegon High School, and Garnet, their 2 month old baby.

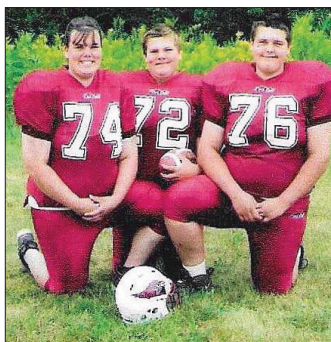
This life Reeves has created for herself has its roots in a farm upbringing that she said taught her not to give up on something once she set out to do it. Back in 2005, she had two brothers, Dan and Chuck, who both played on the front line of the junior varsity and varsity football teams.

SEE REEVES • PAGE A10



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Susanna Reeves on her first day back at work following maternity leave on Oct. 10.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Susanna (Koshak) Reeves (74), left, and her brothers, Dan Koshak (72) and Chuck Koshak (76), who were all varsity and junior varsity linemen on the Chequamegon High School Cardinals football teams in 2005.

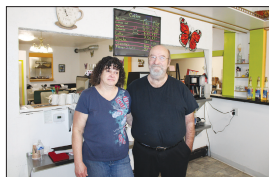
## Owners close Espresso Alamo

BY TOM LAVENTURE  
tlaventure@pricecountyreview.com

PARK FALLS — After six years of service a popular downtown restaurant and variety has closed in Park Falls. The Espresso Alamo and adjoining Park Falls Variety Store closed on Sept. 30.

Larry and Shelli Arcand said the timing is right. The couple want to attend to health issues, don't want to pass rising costs of goods onto customers, and can't see the value of investing in required fire suppression upgrades in this economy.

"We made it through



TOM LAVENTURE / PCR

Larry and Shelli Arcand in Espresso Alamo on Oct. 4. The couple closed the downtown Park Falls restaurant and variety store on Sept. 30, citing health issues, the economy and the cost of upgrades as a perfect storm of reasons to retire.

the pandemic just fine, but this last year the business has been way down," Shelli Arcand said. "But we

physically just can't do it anymore, and that is what it boils down to."

SEE ALAMODE • PAGE A9

## Two-way traffic returns to Turner Street

BY TOM LAVENTURE  
tlaventure@pricecountyreview.com

With the Phillips Elementary School now part of the main campus on Flambeau Avenue, the city of Phillips Committee of the Whole on Oct. 4 approved a recommendation to restore two-way traffic for Turner Street that runs in front of the former grade school.

The action followed discussion on potential issues for reopening to two-way traffic. With no objections from Phillips Police Department, the Phillips School District that now used the

former grade school as offices, and the city streets department, the council members said that two-way traffic could be restored.

The change will officially occur on Oct. 17, according to Public Works Director Jeff Williams. "The process will involve removing signage and there are also painted markings to grind away."

"Right now we just need permission to change," Williams said.

The city will also post a legal notice that the road is no longer a one-way street.

SEE TURNER • PAGE A9

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» ALAMODE  
FROM PAGE A1

It was a really hard decision to close, she said. The hardest part was telling the customers.

"If we were in a bigger city, and we had the same situation, it wouldn't have been as bad because you don't get that connection with people," Shelli said. "Here, you watch their kids growing up."

The price of food has increased exponentially with inflation and the lingering supply and demand issues from the post-pandemic, Larry Arcmond said. The lower prices are what has made the restaurant a destination for people who don't have a lot to spend.

"We were cheaper than everybody else and we had really good portions of everything," Larry said. "Now, I would literally have to get \$15 for a basic bacon and egg breakfast."

The prices continue to increase, he said. A case of medium eggs that was \$32 six months ago is \$65 now, and according to their supplier eggs will be \$75 a case for the next order.

It has been a strange few months where coffee cups are available at twice the price but there wouldn't be any lids for them, Larry said. Anything paper seemed to be out of stock.

"We couldn't get the napkins. We couldn't get the cups for scooping ice cream into," Larry said. "And when it did become available, it was twice the cost, literally, of what it was two months ago. Right now it's just such a crazy world."

"To keep going wouldn't be economically feasible for the restaurant or its patrons, they said.

There was a one month closing announcement to allow



Larry and Shelli Arcmond in Espresso Alamo on Oct. 4. The couple closed the downtown Park Falls restaurant and variety store on Sept. 30, citing health issues, the economy and the cost of upgrades as a perfect storm of reasons to retire.

TOM LAVENTURE / PGR

everyone to use up gift certificates and to use up as much inventory as possible.

It was a soft closing without any fanfare but there were a lot of warm words and well-wishes, they said. The customers have been great and will be what the couple misses the most, especially the regulars who came in all the time and were very supportive.

"They said they were sorry to see us go and said that they were gonna miss the food, you know," Shelli said. "I'm gonna miss the people, they're so nice. Park Falls is by far the best place we've ever lived."

The couple still have the crayon drawing hanging on the

wall from a little girl who was with the family of the first customers. She's a teenager now, they said.

The customers will probably miss the ice cream the most, Larry said. They kept the cooler well stocked because families would always stop by in the afternoons and weekends just for an ice cream treat.

There were four part time employees. Most were students and they had one regular waitress.

The state of Wisconsin now requires an automated fire suppression system upgrade for commercial kitchens with fryers and grills that produce flames. This kitchen would

require two of the new suppression systems at \$10,000 each, Larry said.

Without the systems, the restaurant could no longer make its popular fries and burgers or hold their Friday fish fry. This was essentially their bread and butter.

The couple also own the building and live upstairs. With their health issues, the current cost of real estate and the inflationary economy they were not interested in another restaurant space and just decided to retire.

"We've been having a lot of health issues too and we just can't do it any more," Shelli said.

The couple say their realtor said that potential buyers are more interested in converting the space into apartments or another type of retail. They said it is versatile with adequate plumbing and space.

The building previously served as Feit's Bar and Bowling before it became a restaurant. There is a four bedroom apartment upstairs, a storefront kitchen and two offices in the back.

The couple happened upon a house in Ashland that recently became available. It will be their retirement home to allow them some time to address their health issues.

"We're gonna rent for a while and get back on our feet healthwise," Shelli said. "Then we'll just figure out what we want to do and where we want to go from there."

Larry is an avid fisherman and plans to be on the lake when he is not attending a flea market to sell the remaining inventory from his online sales business and the variety shop. Shelli wants to work part time just to have some structure.

The couple have two daughters who rounded out the business. Amanda handled the baked goods and Eli oversaw the adjoining variety store and made and sold arts and crafts. The two plan to also move to Ashland where they will continue their trade through the flea markets and local shops and online.

Everything has been getting expensive and people have had less money to spend since the pandemic, Amanda said. No one predicted the store closing back then but looking back it's been slowly coming to this point.

"I will miss living in a small town," Amanda said.

» TURNER  
FROM PAGE A1

Water and Wastewater Supervisor Todd Toelle said that work on the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade project is ongoing as the city waits for parts needed for equipment repairs.

The committee recommended approval of a \$32,292 pay request to Staab Construction for work performed at the wastewater treatment plant. If approved by the city council the funding remaining to complete the project will total \$34,765.

Phillips AMVETS Auxiliary Unit 50 President Dolores Gradinjan was present during public comment to discuss the organization's application to acquire an interpretive tank as a display item for a memorial or other veterans related location in Phillips. Once acquired and placed on city property, the city would be responsible for the tank, she said.

The council members said they would like to receive more information on maintenance of the tank. There would

be special materials and regulations that the city would want to know about and if an outside company would contract for the work or if city workers could do the job. Laura Palzkil, executive director of the Phillips Area Chamber of Commerce, was present to report to the council that the annual Fall Harvest Festival had a great turnout with more than 50 vendors present. She thanked the city for its part in making the streets around the courthouse available.

"We appreciate all the (streets) department and the council did to assist us on that fun, fall day," Palzkil said.

In the 2023 Budget discussion, city Assistant Clerk Autumn Gedde said the preliminary projections show that employee retirement costs are expected to increase 6.8% and employee health insurance would increase 2%.

Mayor Charles Peterson said the rising cost of living and keeping the departments functioning with the increasing costs of fuel and materials has

been a challenge that has no solution within the current budget forecast.

"We might have to ask for an increase in April," Peterson said of possibly putting a levy increase referendum on the spring election ballot.

The city needs to look into the process of what needs to occur to make this happen should the council see the need to consider the request, he said.

Bryce Schoenborn, city attorney, said that revenue caps and revenue sharing limited possibilities. The city's

option of going directly to the voters may be the way to address problems of the real world where a council can increase a budget by 2% when expenses are going up 8%.

In the department reports, Williams said the public works crews are in the process of winterization. The crack and sealing work and hydrant flushing are complete and the city splash pad has been winterized. The campground will close as the weather requires, he said.

Toelle said there are potential projects for the

city and he is preparing applications for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund that offers principal forgiveness to be used for work at the water plant. Answering committee member questions, Toelle said that street projects do not qualify except for where city water and sewer lines are replaced and require replacement of road surfaces.

In his report, Phillips Police Chief Michael Hauschild said there would be a new officer in the department as of Oct. 10. The rookie officer has

successfully completed academy training at Chippewa Valley Technical College and will start training with the department immediately.

There were 150 calls for service in the past month, which compares to 174 calls for the month last year, he said. There have been 1,373 calls for service so far in 2022, which compares to 1,538 calls for service at the same time in 2021.

In other business, the council approved the next regular meeting for the department as of Oct. 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1 at city hall.

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## Get a Flu Vaccine

Come get your yearly flu vaccination! Price County Public Health will be at the following locations to administer flu vaccinations!

<p><b>Monday, October 24th</b>                      Kennan Fire Hall   9:30 am - 10:30 am                      Ogema Public Library   11:30 am - 12:30 pm                      Park Falls Public Health Office   3:30 pm - 5:00 pm</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, October 25th</b>                      Brantwood Community Center   10:00 am - 11:00 am                      Prentice Railroad Rec Center   12:00 pm - 1:00 pm</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, October 26th</b>                      Phillips Public Health Office   1:00 pm - 3:30 pm</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, November 2nd</b>                      Pike Lake Fire Hall   6:30 pm - 7:30 pm</p>

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Local Author Jeff Hein will be at the Phillips Public Library signing copies of his book 'The Cimbric Appear' on Saturday, October 15th from 9am-1pm. Jeff will be reading a selection from this work at 11am. Jeff Hein was born and raised in Wisconsin and served in the U.S. Army for twenty years. Jeff writes historical fiction based on ancient writings and modern archeological discoveries. The Cimbric Appear is a historical fiction novel set in 120 BC. Join us for this event at the Phillips Library 286 Cherry St, Phillips WI.