



The FREEMAN

Waukesha County's Daily Newspaper

Crackdown on dogs in parks continues

Number of violators, however, has declined this summer



Signs warning that dogs aren't allowed hang near the entrance of Frame Park.



Hannah Weikel/Freeman Staff

Millie and Bailey, both shepherd mixes, take a break from playing fetch on Tuesday afternoon in Minooka County Park, which has a designated off-leash area for dogs.

By Hannah Weikel
Freeman Staff

WAUKESHA — If you've ventured out to the city's parks during the summer you might have seen someone walking their dog in the park, blissfully unaware they are breaking a city rule.

The city continues to struggle with dog owners who bring their pets into parks, but after a more concerted effort between community service officers with the Waukesha Police Department and the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department, people are starting to get the hint that dogs aren't — and never have been — allowed in city parks.

Still, like last year, the most common offense seasonal CSOs have come across this summer is dogs-in-the-park and almost all are first-time offenders, said Derek Jack, a second-year CSO.

Thirty warnings and no citations have been handed out to people with dogs in parks so far this summer, compared to 55 warnings at this time last year, said Patrol Sgt. David Daily.

"We don't want to cite people on this," Daily said. "We don't want to cite people who are just trying to enjoy using the parks."

People can be fined \$67.30



Waukesha resident Mike Sereno walks his dog Lucky at Minooka Dog Park on Tuesday afternoon.

for their first offense and up to \$187 for repeat offenses. But the goal isn't to issue citations, it's to make everyone aware of the rules, Jack said.

Still, there seems to be considerable confusion over where dogs are allowed and where they are not allowed in the city, Daily said.

The parks department increased signs in city parks, but the offense is prolific in popular areas like Frame Park and Cutler Park, Daily said.

The reality is that not everyone likes dogs. At this point, it's the city's stance not to allow them in parks, said Mona Bauer, Parks and Recreation customer and

administrative services manager.

Degrees of dog-friendliness

But the rule, and Waukesha's overall dog-friendliness, has city residents at odds. While some say Waukesha is too dog-friendly, others go so far as to say the city is one of the least dog-friendly areas they've experienced.

"I wish dogs were allowed on leash in city parks. It would be nice to be able to walk my dogs when I walk with my kids to the playground. Would also like to be able to walk the river walk at Frame Park," said Hillary Roberts on The Freeman's

Facebook page.

Others think there should be more restrictions on dogs in Waukesha.

"Sometimes too dog friendly ... that applies to the Farmers Market. Some people who would shop are allergic or afraid of them. If you're feeling guilty because you haven't been spending time with your dog during the week, don't expect others to have to put up with them," said Nancy Freitag-Singer in a Facebook comment.

Dogs on leashes are currently allowed in Clocktower-Bethesda Park and Rivers Crossing Park off County Highway H. They are also allowed downtown during events like Friday Night Live and the Farmers Market. Dogs are allowed off-leash at Minooka Dog Park and MacArthur Dog Run. But according to the city's Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department, there is a movement by residents who don't think that's enough.

Bauer said a customer satisfaction survey conducted every five years showed that many want the city to designate more dog-on-leash parks and to continue to loosen dog restrictions, as has been the trend over the last decade or so.

See **DOGS**, PAGE 8A

WAUKESHA

State agrees to extend city's radium deadline to 2023

By Hannah Weikel
Freeman Staff

SOUND OFF

What do you think?
Phone: 262-513-2641
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WAUKESHA — City officials have reached an agreement with the state of Wisconsin to extend the impending deadline for compliance with radium standards in drinking water until 2023, when the pipeline diverting Lake Michigan water to the city is expected to be finished.

Waukesha had been required to be in full compliance by June 30, 2018 or be fined under a previous agreement with the state. The city didn't receive final approval for the project until June 2017, which left two years for planning, design and construction. The new agreement buys Waukesha five more years for completion, until Sept. 1, 2023.

"Obtaining Great Lakes

water is a multi-step process and this is just one more step in that process," Mayor Shawn Reilly said. "There are a lot of things that still need to be taken care of."

Waukesha is currently weighing two separate water proposals from Oak Creek and Milwaukee, and will likely decide on a water provider in August, Reilly said.

In the meantime, the agreement received unanimous approval from the Common Council on Tuesday night. It still needs a signature from the Wisconsin

See **RADIUM**, PAGE 8A

Total eclipse

UW Colleges to participate in tour of best places to view historic event

By Ashley Haynes
Freeman Staff

up in St. Joseph, Missouri where the group will be at the center of the eclipse's route.

"We have a bus, which we call our moving classroom," said Passante.

The trip will start with participants getting picked up at three different UW campuses: UW-Sheboygan County, UW-Washington County, and UW-Waukesha early on Aug. 19. Before heading out of state, the group will stop at Yerkes Observatory, the University of Chicago's observatory in Williams Bay. After a mid-day tour, the group will head south to Illinois for the night, where William Dirienzo, a professor in astronomy, will host an evening of stargazing and instruction. Dirienzo currently teaches astronomy at UW-Sheboygan.

"Dr. Dirienzo is bringing a bunch of telescopes for later that night, and he'll pick out the perfect spot to stargaze," said Passante.

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WEATHER



Tomorrow:
Scattered
thunderstorms
High 84 / Low 68

See complete forecast on Page 8A

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TONIGHT

Scattered thunderstorms

65

TOMORROW

Scattered thunderstorms

84/68

FRIDAY

Scattered thunderstorms

81/67

SATURDAY

Chance of thunderstorms

85/69

SUNDAY

Chance of thunderstorms

78/59

REGIONAL FORECAST

COMFORT INDEX

5

What the air will feel like tomorrow, based on the temperature, humidity and wind speed. 1 poor; 10 excellent.

ALMANAC

Statistics for yesterday

High/Low, Waukesha 84/60

High/Low 87/61

Normal High / Low 80/64

Last year's high for date 87

Last year's low for date 61

Precipitation, Waukesha 0.00"

Precipitation 0.00"

Precip. month to date 2.71"

Normal month to date 2.19"

Precip. year to date 24.71"

Normal year to date 18.73"

Jul. 23 Jul. 30 Aug. 7 Aug. 14

New First Q Full Last Q

Sunset today 8:26 p.m.

Sunrise tomorrow 5:32 a.m.

HEAT INDEX TOMORROW

A composite of the effects of temperature and humidity on the human body.

8 a.m. 67

Noon 76

4 p.m. 88

8 p.m. 85

COOLING DEGREE

An index of energy consumption indicating how many degrees the day's mean temperature was above 65 degrees.

Yesterday 4

Month to date 1

Year to date 1

Normal season to date 1

MOONRISE TOMORROW

2:01 a.m.

MOONSET TOMORROW

5:46 p.m.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Thursday, Jul. 20, 2017

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN

Tonight: Partly cloudy with scattered showers and thunderstorms developing. Thursday: Scattered morning thunderstorms, then partly cloudy afternoon. More storms overnight.

MARINE FORECAST

Lake Michigan near shore forecast:

Tonight: East wind 5 to 10 knots becoming southeast late in the evening, then rising to 5 to 10 knots after midnight rising to 10 to 15 knots early in the morning.

Lake Michigan water temperature is 66 degrees.

ULTRAVIOLET INDEX FORECAST

The UVi forecast for Thursday is 6

UV scale and warnings on possible skin damage: 0-2 low risk, 3-5 moderate risk, 6-7 high risk, 8-10 very high risk, 11-over extreme risk.

All maps, forecasts and data provided by ©2017, The Weather Company, LLC

TRAVEL ADVISORY FOR TOMORROW

ATLANTA High: 92 Low: 75	CHICAGO High: 88 Low: 73	DALLAS High: 99 Low: 79
DENVER High: 93 Low: 65	LOS ANGELES High: 76 Low: 66	MIAMI High: 90 Low: 79
MINNEAPOLIS High: 87 Low: 70	NEW YORK High: 90 Low: 76	PHOENIX High: 104 Low: 84
SEATTLE High: 69 Low: 55	ST. LOUIS High: 103 Low: 81	WASHINGTON High: 96 Low: 77

Radium

From Page 1A

Department of Justice before it can be sent to Waukesha County Circuit Court for final judgment. Reilly said he expects it to be approved in court.

As part of the amended agreement, Waukesha must have a backup plan for a temporary radium treatment system if the Great Lakes water diversion project is delayed further.

If the diversion project is not 50 percent completed by May 2022, Waukesha will need to install a temporary system that costs about \$3.1 million to carry over until Lake Michigan water is available.

The agreement also obligates Waukesha to have backup pumps for radium-compliant wells in the event of one breaking. The city has increased the usage of radium-compliant wells, which has shortened the life of pumps and motors. The city is now required to have replacement equipment on hand.

Reilly said he expects the switch to Great Lakes water to move forward on schedule and does not think the city will be required to build the costly additional treatment.

Radium occurs naturally in Waukesha's deep aquifer water supply and the city's water currently exceeds safe drinking levels, according to the most recent water report. The standards are based on risks of drinking a half gallon of the water every day for many years.

In other business

■ City Administrator Kevin Lahner gave an update on flooding in City Hall during Tuesday's meeting. He provided pictures and videos of water intrusion from last week's storm that showed a quarter inch of water in the electrical and boiler rooms.

Lahner said water was within several feet of the electrical control room housing bus bars that distribute power to the entire building. He said bus bars could electrify water on the floor and have the potential to electrify all metal surfaces in City Hall.

Roof drains were overwhelmed during the storm and leaked into the boiler room and through the ceiling of the electrical room, which Lahner estimates cost the city \$856.33 in lost wages as 11 employees worked to stymie water that morning.

City officials are looking at options for a new or renovated City Hall that will likely come up in the next city budget.

■ A motion to dismiss a pending federal lawsuit against the city will be filed after attorneys representing Tyler Cox — a registered sex offender who was recently released from prison — refused requests to drop the case, said City Attorney Brian Running.

Cox brought the suit based on the city's sex offender residency restrictions, which have since been loosened because a similar ordinance was ruled unconstitutional in Pleasant Prairie.

Cox has been placed at his father's house in Waukesha, but is "insisting on being paid attorney's fees" even though he suffered no injury from the ordinance, Running said.

■ Lahner told aldermen that Fox 6 News has been investigating the embattled Waukesha Public Library bookdrop and plans to air a story later this week. He said the story would likely be "negative press."

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'Let Obamacare fail,' Trump says after GOP plan collapses

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump declared Tuesday it's time to "let Obamacare fail" after the latest GOP health care plan crashed and burned in the Senate.

Rank-and-file Republican senators turned on Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Trump for the third time in a row, denying the votes to move forward with a plan for a straight-up repeal of "Obamacare." This time, it was three GOP women — Susan Collins of Maine, Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, and Shelley Moore Capito of West Virginia — who delivered the death blow.

McConnell, who could afford to lose only two votes in the narrowly divided Senate, had turned to the repeal-only bill after his earlier repeal-and-replace measure was rejected on Monday. That had followed the failure of an earlier version of the bill last month.

The successive defeats made clear that despite

President Donald Trump speaks while having lunch with service members in the Roosevelt Room of the White House in Washington on Tuesday.

seven years of promises to repeal former President Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act, Republicans apparently cannot deliver. Nonetheless, McConnell insisted he would move forward with a vote on his measure to repeal the law, effective in two years, with a promise to work — along with Democrats — to replace it in the meantime.

The vote could come as soon as today. It appears

Associated Press

Sen. Cory Gardner, R-Colo., Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Ky., Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo., and Senate Majority Whip Sen. John Cornyn of Texas, speak on Capitol Hill in Washington on Tuesday. President Donald Trump blasted congressional Democrats and "a few Republicans" over the collapse of the GOP effort to rewrite the Obama health care law.

doomed to fail, but GOP leaders want to put lawmakers on record on the issue and move on.

"Action in the Senate remains in flux," said Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wisconsin.

"My hope is that we continue to work to bridge differences within the conference so we can pass a bill that improves the increasingly dire situation caused by Obamacare."

At the White House,

Ryan's approval suffers as Republican agenda stalls, poll finds

WASHINGTON (TNS) — It would be hard to find a Republican who has suffered more than House Speaker Paul Ryan as Congress and President Donald Trump have struggled to turn GOP promises into reality.

More people now view the House speaker from Wisconsin in a negative light rather than a positive one, 48 percent to 34 percent, according to a Bloomberg National Poll,

Ryan

one of the Republican Party's biggest stars and its 2012 vice presidential nominee. The approval rating decline for

conducted July 8-12. In December, 31 percent held a negative view, while 47 percent looked at him favorably.

It's a dramatic turn for Ryan, who oversaw the survey. "But he's in charge of Congress and Congress is not delivering."

Ryan is the largest among GOP leaders measured by the Bloomberg survey — and exceeds the drop in approval for the party, Congress and Trump.

"It's unusual to see this big a flip, especially for a guy who is somewhat behind the scenes," said pollster J. Ann Selzer, who oversaw the survey. "But he's in charge of Congress and Congress is not delivering."

STATE NEWS

MILWAUKEE

2 men hurt in explosion at Milwaukee Public Works garage

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Milwaukee police say two men have been seriously injured in an explosion at a city Public Works Department garage.

The blast happened shortly before 1 p.m. Tuesday. The cause wasn't immediately determined.

The two men were taken to a hospital with unspecified injuries.

MADISON

2 men charged with murder in robbery heart-attack death

MADISON (AP) — Two men accused of stealing \$4,300 from a Wisconsin fast-

food restaurant are facing murder charges after a bystander suffered a fatal heart attack during the armed robbery.

A criminal complaint filed in Dane County Circuit Court on Monday alleges that Xavier Fleming, 25, and Nicholas Ivy, 32, robbed a Culver's restaurant in Madison last month.

Contractor Christ Kneubuehl was in the restaurant at the time with three of his crew members. He agreed to help the men break into the safe to ensure everyone's safety, but he then suffered a heart attack, his crew members told police.

One suspect refused to call an ambulance and continued to snatch money while Kneubuehl suffered the medical emergency, according to court documents.

MANITOWOC

Police officer with stun gun sets naked man on fire

MANITOWOC (AP) — Police say an officer using a stun gun to restrain a naked man accidentally set the man's chest hair and beard on fire.

Officers found the 32-year-old naked man standing in the street in Manitowoc on Sunday evening. They say the man yelled that he wanted to harm people living nearby.

Officers suspected he was impaired by drugs and placed him in handcuffs, but the man struggled and refused to enter a squad car.

That's when one officer deployed a stun gun, striking a lighter in the man's hand. The lighter fluid and electricity combined to

spark the fire in his beard and chest hair.

As officers extinguished the blaze, the man punched one of them in the face.

BURLINGTON

Flooding destroys cash at Burlington bank

BURLINGTON (AP) — Extensive flooding in southeastern Wisconsin has destroyed the valuable contents of a Burlington bank vault.

Fox River State Bank officials say every dollar in the vault will need to be replaced by the Federal Reserve after flood water last week destroyed the cash.

Bank president Keith Polleck says vaults are water resistant, but are not guaranteed to be water proof. As

swimming out to the fawn, grabbed it by the neck, and started swimming to shore."

Video shows Storm pushing the deer to shore, lying next to the fawn and nudging it with his nose.

Freeley says animal rescuers soon arrived and the deer ran back into the water. They used a rope to pull the fawn back in.

The fawn is recovering at an animal rescue center.

Eclipse

From Page 1A

The next day, the group will continue to St. Joseph. They will join thousands of spectators and other astronomers to experience 2 minutes and 39 seconds of totality, only one second short of the maximum time possible. Dirienzo agrees that St. Joseph is an optimum region to view the eclipse. Although people will experience the eclipse throughout the United States, it is only in the northwest to southwest path that it will appear as if the lights have been turned off as the moon crosses between the earth and the sun.

"What's interesting about

this trip is that it is intergenerational," said Passante. "We have both college students and older folks participating."

Although college students can go on the tour for credit, the majority of the group consists of adults within the community. Less than 20 people are signed up to attend the eclipse tour, and Passante says there are a very limited number of spots left.

"It's a lot of traveling for just a few seconds, but then I thought we travel to Kentucky for a two and a half minute race," said Passante.

For more information on the eclipse tour, visit sheboygan.uwc.edu/continuing-ed/travel.

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Dogs

From Page 1A

District 12 Alderman Aaron Perry is part of the movement to designate more dogs-on-a-leash parks. Perry headed an unsuccessful push to designate River Hills Park in his district last year and plans to bring it forward again, he said.

"The large majority of dog owners are responsible," Perry said. "But I know there are people who are going to use the parks with their dogs regardless of the rules."

Perry said certain parks, like Cutler Park and Frame Park, will never be good areas for dogs. He said dog-on-a-leash designations are more appropriate for neighborhood parks with lighter foot traffic.

Bauer said city parks won't become dog-friendly overnight, but in certain "hotspots" where there has been high demand for canines, there could be changes soon.

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