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Residents attend a public open house about Waukesha's water plan at West High School on Tuesday

# Billing questions raised at water plan open house

Resident offers \$1,000 for official study showing current water source isn't sustainable

By Hannah Weikel hweikel@conleynet.com 262-513-2651

WAUKESHA — About 50 Waukesha residents attended the first public open house since Milwaukee was tapped for future clean water supply, and came with a range of questions from technical to simple.

Ahead of the presentation, a bright yellow flyer was distributed by Waukesha resident \$1,000 to anyone who provides that the city's current water source, through the deep aquifer, is not sustainable.

#### Sound Off What do you think?

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It goes on to say that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the United States Geological Survey have not endorsed Waukesha's studies on the deep aquifer.

Waukesha Water Utility Gen-Steve Edlund, who was offering eral Manager Duchniak fielded everyone who looked at it and an official study substantiating and other attendees during his the studies done on the deep presentation, but at one point aquifer and Great Lakes water. asked Edlund to save his questions for after the event.

Duchniak said Edlund's questions about the deep aquifer, from which Waukesha has been drawing water, were submitted to WDNR in the past and were reviewed by the parties that looked at Waukesha's application for Great Lakes water, "and they all sided with us." He said a memo was created in response to Edlund's inquiries that cost taxpayers several thousand dol-

"It's not just us saying this, it's

See WATER, PAGE 8A

**WAUKESHA WATER PROJECT** 

# Milwaukee council approves water contract 14-1

Waukesha officials emphasize 'water-only deal' without strings attached

> By Hannah Weikel hweikel@conleynet.com 262-513-2651

MILWAUKEE — With little fanfare, the contract between Milwaukee and Waukesha for the sale of Lake Michigan water was approved by Milwaukee's Common Council on Tuesday

Though the group voted 14 to 1 in favor of the contract and intergovernmental agreement between the two cities, none of the aldermen took the chance to publicly discuss the sale of Great Lakes water to Waukesha or why they were approving it during the meeting.

Even the sole vote in opposition, which came from District 3 Ald. Nik Kovac, wasn't explained in the public hearing. Kovac said after the meeting that he couldn't support the contract because it doesn't include any guarantees that the city and county of Waukesha would work to decrease racial segregation in the region.

"For my support ... there'd need to be a much more iron-clad guarantee this was not a way to encourage incredibly destructive urban sprawl," Kovac said. "As far as I can tell, regional cooperation is always a one-way street that has led us to, by far, by every measure, the most racially segregated region in the country.

participate in a reasonable manner minority residents. with the regional transportation authority [and] would stop zoning out

the poor, then I would consider supporting regional cooperation," he

Described by Waukesha officials as a "water-only deal," the contract that was hammered out between Waukesha and Milwaukee doesn't include any stipulations about affordable housing, transportation or any other such issues, which have come up before during discussions with Milwaukee over water and remain points of contention.

Waukesha Water Utility General Manager Dan Duchniak said Kovac's dissent would show Waukesha ratepayers that it is truly a water-only deal and 14 other Milwaukee aldermen understand that.

"[Kovac] was disappointed that a lot of those issues weren't included in the contract, but Waukesha wanted a water-only deal and that's what we got," Duchniak said.

One piece in the contract would give Milwaukee a one-time payment of \$2.5 million to the city's general fund, which Mayor Tom Barrett has said he would like to see used to replace some of the lead lateral pipes in the city.

At a Milwaukee Steering and Rules Committee hearing last week, Barrett said the \$2.5 million payment could also be seen as aid for some of the racial issues in the city, because many properties dealing with lea city and county of Waukesha would eral pipes are owned or rented by

See MILWAUKEE. PAGE 8A

### The gift of gold

#### Salvation Army receives rare solid gold coin in red kettle

WAUKESHA — Every Christmas our red buckets a season, merry shoppers are reacquainted with the familiar sight Leaf," said Smith. and sound of bell-ringing volunteers collecting donations in the Salvation Army's distinctive red kettles. While there's no doubt that the joy of the holiday season inspires the spirit of giving in plenty of people, one anonymous donor gave an especially generous gift outside the Pick 'n Save on East

On Saturday afternoon, Waukesha Salvation Army Director of Marketing and Communications Andy Smith felt something heavy hidden in a dollar bill within the red kettle he was sorting. Out came a solid gold coin that Smith says he recognized immediately.

Canadian

The coin is valued from \$1,300-\$1,400 and will be auctioned off at a later date. For now, Smith says finding that gift of gold has renewed some hope for the Salvation Army. It is short of their \$800,000 goal and facing a shortage of volunteers.

"It was a \$600 kettle if I recall, which is a really strong kettle," said Smith. "Throw in a \$1,300 coin and someone else who wrote a check for \$100 and it was almost a \$2,000 ket-

also faces a unique challenge in that they don't fundraise on holidays. And this year, Christmas Eve "Someone dropped into one of falls on a Sunday, their biggest day

The Waukesha Salvation Army received a rare, solid gold Canadian Maple Leaf coin, valued at around \$1,300, on Saturday. Submitted photo

for accepting donations. Smith says it absolutely critical that volunteers come out and take two- to three-hour shifts.

He also says they are trying to make donating easier and more modern. Now, donations can be made online at www.waukeshasalvationarmy.org. Smith regrets that he can't express his gratitude to the anonymous gold-coin donor.

We wish that we could thank this person," said Smith. "They know This year, the Salvation Army that they're not going to be thanked personally, which is kind of a sad thing for us, because we would like

- Ashley Haynes, Freeman Staff

SLENDER MAN CASE

### Geyser's sentencing hearing set for Feb. 1 Prosecutor

ing date for 15-year-old Morgan Geyser has been set for Feb. 1, 2018, when the court will determine how long she will be committed to a state mental health facility after she pleaded guilty to stabbing a classmate in 2014 to appease fictional horror character Slender Man.

Geyser avoided trial in October after she entered her guilty plea and the state agreed mental illness at the time of the crime kept her from understanding her actions or following the law. Co-actor Anissa Weier, also 15, was found to be not guilty for the same reason at her trial in September and also faces institutionalization.



state and defense will call on expert witnesses who have examined Geyser's mental state. Both parties must disclose all witnesses to the court by Jan. 5.

Ted

Szczu-

pakiewicz said

Geyser's dis-

position will

be contested

during the sen-

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ing in Febru-

ary. Both the

Geyser faces up to 40 years in a state mental institution. She has already been getting treatment for schizophrenia for about two years.

Freeman Staff



#### **INDEX**

Business4A	Lottery2	A
Classified5B	-	
Comics <b>7B</b>	Opinion5	F
Crossword puzzle7B	Sports1	E
Ask the Doctors 7R	Weather 8	Δ

#### **WEATHER**



Tomorrow: Mostly sunny High 45 / Low 28

See complete forecast on Page 8A

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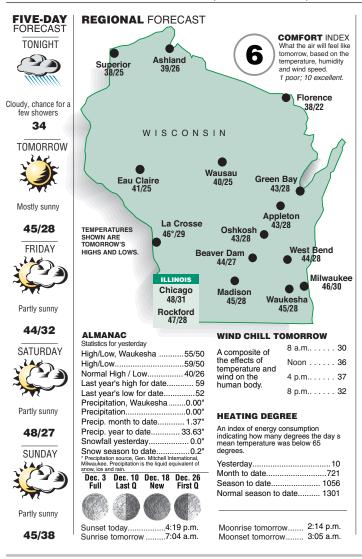


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**NATIONAL FORECAST** Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017 **MAP KEY 0**s COLD 10s 30s CLOUDS 405 ALASKA HAWAII THUNDER

**SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN** 

Tonight: Mostly cloudy with light rain showers possible after midnight. Lows in the lower 30s. Thursday: Breezy with mostly sunny skies. Highs in the mid-40s

**MARINE FORECAST** 

Lake Michigan near shore forecast: Tonight: South wind 10 to 15 knots veering southwest early in the

Lake Michigan water temperature is na degrees. **ULTRAVIOLET INDEX FORECAST** 

The UVI forecast for Thursday is 0 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

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### refuses to let Schimel represent him in lawsuit

**Evers** 

MADISON (AP) — State Superintendent Tony Evers, a Democratic candidate for governor, said Tuesday he refuses to be represented by



Evers said he was firing Attorney General Brad Schimel over what he characterized as a conflict interest, but

Schimel's spokesman said he would not step aside. That sets up what could be a protracted separate legal fight over who

should represent Evers in the case. At the heart of the underlying lawsuit is the latest battle in a decades-long fight over the constitutional powers of the state superintendent of public instruc-

Schimel

tion, a position Evers has held for nearly nine years. A newly enacted state law, passed by the Republican-controlled Legislature and signed by Walker, requires all state agency rules to be approved by the

governor. The Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty last week filed a lawsuit directly with the state Supreme Court. It alleges that the Department of Public Instruction, which Evers runs as state superintendent, has been writing administrative rules without permission of Walker's administration in violation

of the new law. Walker last week ordered the Justice Department to represent Evers in the case, even though the department agrees with the position taken in the lawsuit by the conservative law firm that brought it.

Evers was joined at a news conference by two prominent Democratic attorneys – Lester Pines and Susan Crawford — who successfully defended the superintendent's rule-making authority in a case decided by the Wisconsin Supreme Court earlier this year.

Pines accused Schimel and his "minions" of "concocting a fantasy" that the Supreme Court ruling giving DPI independence to enact rules without the governor's approval means

Rick Esenberg, attorney for WILL that brought the lawsuit, said confusion over the ruling remains and passage of the law this year by the Legislature forces the Supreme Court to revisit the issue.

Justice Department spokesman Johnny Koremenos said Evers' personal opinions "will have no bearing on the attorney general's power or ethical duty to represent the state.'

Last week, Koremenos said "it is not unusual for a client agency to disagree with the position of DOJ and this case is no differ-

## North Korea launches intercontinental ballistic missile in possibly its longest-range test yet

relative peace, North Korea capital Pyongyang, reached launched its most powerful a maximum height of 2,780 weapon yet early Wednesday, claiming a new type of intercontinental ballistic missile that some observers believe could put Washington and the entire eastern U.S. seaboard within range.

The North said in a special televised announcement hours after the launch that it had successfully fired what it called the Hwasong-15, a new nuclear-capable ICBM that's "significantly more" powerful than the long-range weapons it's previously tested. Outside governments and analysts backed up the North's claim to a jump in missile capability.

resumption Pyongyang's torrid testing pace in pursuit of its goal of a viable arsenal of nuclearthe U.S. mainland had been Washington. time and midday in the U.S. People's Republic of Korea. capital indicated an effort to perfect the element of surprise and to obtain maximum attention in the United States.

In a government statement released through state media. North Korea said the Hwasong-15, the "greatest ICBM," could be armed with a "super-large heavy nuclear warhead" and strike the "whole mainland" of the United States.

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) The North said the missile, something experts say may After 2 1/2 months of which was fired near the miles and traveled 590 miles before accurately hitting a sea target, similar to the flight data announced by South Korea's military.

The North said the missile, which was fired at the "highest" launch angle, didn't pose a security threat to its neighbors. It said leader Kim Jong Un after the successful launch "declared with pride" that the country has achieved its goal of becoming a "rocket power."

"The development and advancement of the strategic weapon of the DPRK are to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country from the U.S. imperialists' nuclear blackmail policy and nuclear threat, and to ensure the peaceful life of the people, tipped missiles that can hit and therefore, they would not pose any threat to any widely expected, but the country and region as long apparent power and sudden- as the interests of the DPRK ness of the new test still jolt- are not infringed upon," ed the Korean Peninsula said the statement, refer-The ring to North Korea's offilaunch at 3:17 a.m. local cial name, the Democratic

#### Seoul responds

A rattled Seoul responded by almost immediately launching three of its own missiles in a show of force. The South's president, Moon Jae-in, expressed worry that North Korea's growing missile threat could force the United States to attack the North before it masters a nucleartipped long-range missile, be imminent.

"If North Korea completes a ballistic missile that could reach from one continent to another, the situation can spiral out of control," Moon said at an emergency meeting in Seoul, according to his office. "We must stop a situation where North Korea miscalculates and threatens us with nuclear weapons or where the United States considers a pre-emptive strike."

#### **Physicist: Missile could** have reached U.S. in standard trajectory

The missile also appears to improve on North Korea's past launches.

If flown on a standard trajectory, instead of Wednesday's lofted angle, the missile would have a range of more than 8,100 miles, said U.S. scientist David Wright, physicist who closely tracks North Korea's missile and nuclear programs. "Such a missile would have more than enough range to reach Washington, D.C., and in fact any part of the continental United States, Wright wrote in a blog post for the Union for Concerned Scientists.

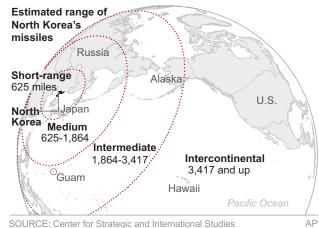
South Korea's National Intelligence Service told lawmakers in a closed-door briefing on Wednesday that the possibility of another North Korean nuclear test 'cannot be discounted," lawmaker Kim Byung-kee

In response to the launch, President Donald Trump said the United States will rate.



A woman walks past a TV screen broadcasting news of North Korea's missile launch in Tokyo on Wednesday. After 2 1/2 months of relative peace, North Korea launched its most powerful weapon yet early Wednesday, a presumed intercontinental ballistic missile that could put Washington and the entire eastern U.S. seaboard within range.

#### North Korean missile ranges



"take care of it." He told handle." He did not elabo-

The U.N. Security Council reporters after the launch: scheduled an emergency "It is a situation that we will meeting for this afternoon at the request of Japan, the U.S. and South Korea.

### GOP moves tax overhaul ahead; shutdown still a threat

tax overhaul a crucial step ahead Tuesday as wavering GOP senators showed a growing openness. But its fate remained uncertain, and a planned White House summit aimed at averting a government shutdown was Donald Trump criticized top Democrats.

Republicans held together and working. Problem is Trump and top Republiand moved their signature they want illegal immigrants flooding into our Country unchecked, are GOP senators at the Capitol weak on Crime and want to substantially RAISE Taxes. fest," as he had his previ-I don't see a deal!" Trump tweeted early Tuesday morning.

"It's time to stop tweetderailed when President ing and start leading," Senate Minority Leader Chuck the Senate Budget Commit-"Meeting with 'Chuck and House Minority Leader sure to the full Senate as a

cans.

Trump lunched with and declared it a "love ous closed-doors visit. But the day underscored the party's problem of unifying behind key legislation.

In a party-line 12-11 vote. Schumer retorted after he tee advanced the tax meaand Nancy' today about Nancy Pelosi rebuffed the pair of wavering Republi- lation remained uncertain next decade.

Johnson and Tennessee's Bob Corker — agreed to moment. Moderate GOP Sen. Susan Collins of assumption" that she was likelier to support the bill after saying Trump agreed to make property taxes up \$10,000 break entirely.

WASHINGTON (AP) — keeping government open budget meeting with cans — Wisconsin's Ron as it headed toward debate by the full Senate, which Republicans control by a support it, at least for the slender 52-48. GOP leaders can afford just two defectors, and a half dozen or Maine said it was a "fair more in their party have been uncommitted. They include some wanting bigger tax breaks for many businesses but others deductible cringing over the \$1.4 trilinstead of eliminating that lion - or more - that themeasure is projected to add But the fate of the legis- to budget deficits over the

#### **STATE NEWS**

#### **MADISON**

#### Wisconsin DNR sold 10 hunting licenses to infants

MADISON (AP) — The state Department of Natural Resources sold 10 hunting licenses to infants after Gov. Scott Walker signed a bill that eliminated the state's minimum hunting age.

The DNR released data Tuesday that shows the agency had sold 1,814 mentored hunt licenses to children age nine or younger through Sunday. The vast majority -1,011licenses — went to nine-yearolds. Fifty-two licenses went to children under age 5, with 10 going to a child under a year old.

A four-year-old was the voungest licensee to register a kill. Harvest data doesn't show who actually killed the deer, however.

#### Bill would allow for early electronic voting

MADISON (AP) — Voters in Wisconsin could cast their ballots early on electronic voting machines instead of paper ballots under a bill heard by an Assembly committee.

The proposal considered Tuesday would allow for local governments to approve early, in-person voting using electronic voting machines. Currently, early voting is done on paper ballots that are either mailed or turned in to clerks' offices.

Under the bill, the ballots would be stored into electronic voting machines but not counted until Election Day.

The measure is sponsored by Republican Rep. Janel Brandtjen, of Menomonee Falls. She says the change would save election officials time because they would no longer have to hand-count the early absentee ballots.

## Milwaukee

Still, Waukesha Mayor Shawn Reilly said pipe replacement is a Milwaukee Water Works project above anything else, so the deal is

absolutely "water only." Following Tuesday's meeting, Milwaukee Common Council President Ashanti Hamilton said he agrees with Kovac that problems of racial disparity and segregation exist in the region and "that those things should be on the table" as Milwaukee and Waukesha enter into a decades-long agreement together.

"What I'm hoping is that Waukesha understands that the better Milwaukee is tackle some of these issues together," Hamilton said, referring to issues cited by Kovac. "This should not con-

tinue to be an adversarial relationship. There's a benefit for us to work on some of these problems together,

including water." Calling it a "money for water deal," Hamilton said he hopes Waukesha officials walk away from water negotiations recognizing that residents and representatives in Milwaukee have the same human needs as the people living in Waukesha.

"Fresh water is important and there are some issues that residents in the city of Milwaukee have, especially when it comes to disparity and concentration of poverty, that will be much better dealt with on a regional basis," Hamilton said. "I hope [Waukesha] would take the same approach that we doing, the better Waukesha have taken with trying to can do and that we start to understand their need and address it, that they would take that same approach with ... some of the issues we

#### Water From Page 1A

"[Edlund] continues to make these comments, but he doesn't want to look at what's been done and what's been reviewed and what all the experts are saying.

Other residents at Tuesday's open house were concerned about how, exactly, Milwaukee water would affect their water bills, which water officials announced will likely be sent out monthly instead of quarterly in the future.

Duchniak said the average family of four will pay about \$1,211 in 2727 with Milwaukee water and all households will be able to eliminate water softeners.

The open house was held at Waukesha West High School and was the first in a three-day series across all city public high schools. The sessions include a presentation by Duchniak, explaining the reason behind the city's need for radium-free water and why the utility chose Milwaukee as the best option.

The next two meeting dates, locations and times are as follows:

- Today: Waukesha South High School, Media Center; 401 E. Roberta Ave. from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. with the presentation beginning at 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday: Waukesha North High School. Media Center; 2222 Michigan Ave. from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. with the presentation beginning at 6:30 p.m.