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HELPING the HOMELESS

Former fire station could be overflow shelter this season



Cara Spoto/Freeman Staff

Judy Been prepares mashed potatoes for the Salvation Army of Waukesha County's evening supper on Thursday. Been has been cooking for the nonprofit for 16 years. In addition to serving supper to anywhere from 80 to 120 people every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, the charity, 445 Madison St., also provides nightly shelter to 46-51 homeless men each night.

Chronic homelessness up across state, according to federal report

By Cara Spoto
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262-513-2653

WAUKESHA — The former Fire Station No. #3 at 1210 Sentry Drive could be put into service as an overflow homeless shelter as early as next month.

The Housing Action Coalition of Waukesha County made an offer to purchase the building from the city this fall, which the city accepted. But the HAC wasn't sure at that time if it could utilize the structure for its overflow shelter needs this season.

Now that efforts to set up a temporary overflow shelter in another location have fallen through, the nonprofit is working to open the fire station for overflow needs, HAC Board member Nicole Angresano said Thursday.

"We just need to get a few more pieces of budgetary information from the agency that is likely be the

provider, and we should have that in house today," Angresano said. "We are very optimistic that we will be able to move forward in the next week or two if the plan is approved."

The search

While Waukesha has a number of overnight shelters, including the Salvation Army of Waukesha County; Hebron House of Hospitality, which operates separate shelters geared towards specific populations; and the Women's Center, many of those shelters run at capacity year round.

With the area's last overflow shelter at 2000 Bluemound Road now being used as a drug and alcohol treatment facility, the HAC had hoped to have other accommodations ready by Dec. 1.

It issued a Request for Proposals or RFP earlier this fall looking for agencies interested in additional funding to providing overflow services, but

"That's where the real gap is. What we don't have are overflow spaces for women and women with children."

— Nicole Angresano
Housing Action Coalition of Waukesha County
Board member

ultimately didn't get an application that fit the bill.

If the nonprofit is able to get the necessary financing and code improvements in place to make the fire station a shelter ready by next month, Angresano said, it would likely be devoted to sheltering women and children during "critically cold nights," she said.

See **HOMELESS**, PAGE 7A

Utility could spend \$325K to replace or repair well pump

Expense comes four years ahead of switch to Lake Michigan water

By Cara Spoto
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WAUKESHA — The Waukesha Water Utility is facing a cost of up to \$325,000 to replace or repair a pump at its largest radium-compliant well.

The expense comes roughly two years after the pump's last failure in 2016, and roughly four years before the city is expected to abandon the use of all its wells in favor of a Great Lakes water supply.

According to a memo submitted to the Waukesha Water Commission, the pump, which allows the well — dubbed Well #10 — to supply the city with 3.8 million gallons of water a day, first started having troubles on Nov. 24 when it faulted into a shutdown. Utility staff were able to restart the pump, but it faulted again Dec. 1.

Waukesha's average water use is about 6 million gallons per day, but demand fluctuates with the seasons.

Tests run by a consultant two days later revealed that "catastrophic failure" of the pump's motor was imminent, the memo states.

New, repaired pump

The utility has since been able to keep the pump running, but only by changing its typical drive settings so that it will not fault.

While the utility has a plan to install a temporary 350-horsepower pump at the well, utility staff say the failing 700-horsepower pump must either be replaced or repaired.

While the utility could get by without a new or repaired pump in the winter or summer, the memo states that high demand could leave it looking for water from one of its non-radium compliant wells.

The Waukesha Water Commission will consider a request to let the Waukesha Water Utility General Manager Dan Duchniak negotiate for the replacement or repair of the well pump this week.

See **WATER**, PAGE 7A

SOUND OFF

What do you think?

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Fun Things To Do This Weekend

Santa's Breakfast Workshop, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Saturday, Martha Merrell's Books, 231 W. Main St., Waukesha. Decorate cookies, dance, take pictures and have breakfast with Santa.

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," 7:30 p.m. today, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, First Congregational Church, 111 Church St. Hartland. Presented by Lake Country Play-

ers. Lakecountryplayhousewi.org for tickets or information. (All tickets now sold online or at the door).

"Christmas Belles," 7:30 p.m. today and Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, Sunset Playhouse, 700 Wall St., Elm Grove. www.sunsetplayhouse.com, 262-782-4430.

Family Picturebook Brunch, 10 a.m. Saturday, Muskego Public

Library, S73-W16663 Janesville Road, Muskego. All ages welcome. This month's book is Mo Willems' "Let's Go For a Drive." Giveaway books are available on a first-come, first-served basis; families are welcome to attend and participate with or without a copy.

Oconomowoc Winter Farmers Market, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Oconomowoc High School, 641 E. Forest St.

WEATHER

Tomorrow:
Partly cloudy
High 33
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See complete forecast on 8A



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DEATHS

THE VILLAGES, FLA.

James D. Burdett

Nov. 26, 1945 — Dec. 14, 2018

James D. Burdett, 73, of The Villages, Fla., formerly from Waukesha, passed away Dec. 14, 2018, from Parkinson's disease.

Jim was born Nov. 26, 1945, in Cleveland, Ohio, to Fred and Elinor



Burdett (Westphal), the second oldest of four children. He graduated from Goodrich High School

in Fond du Lac, and from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh where he



earned a degree in business administration in 1968. He was drafted into the Army immediately upon graduating and sent to Vietnam, where he served in the 9th Infantry 25th Division as a staff sergeant. Returning to Wisconsin, Jim worked as a computer programmer at Marquette University in Milwaukee, and from there a systems analyst in Waukesha at RTE, which after many name changes became Waukesha Electric Systems, where he worked for 32 years.

Jim loved the outdoors whether it was planting a tree, hunting, fishing, golfing, biking, or cross country skiing.

Jim leaves his wife, Judy, of 49 years, their two children, Katherine Plitt (Todd) of West Orange, N.J., and John Burdett (Tracy) of Oshkosh; grandchildren Jackson, Sullivan, Jace and Tia; sisters Susan Burdett of Milwaukee and Christyne Burdett (Russ) of Altadena, Calif.; brother, Kenneth Burdett (Arla) of Midland, Mich.; and all his nieces and nephews. Jim will also be remembered by his brothers and sisters-in-law, John and Sally St. Peter of Deerfield, Ill., and Jim and Kathy Lewis of Fremont, as well as many wonderful, caring friends.

Jim was a tower of a man, not only in height, but in character. He was kind, humble and courageous, with a sense of humor, limitless patience and an easy smile. His service to his country exposed him to chemicals that resulted in Parkinson's disease, but he shouldered the burden of chronic illness with strength and grace without a complaint. His greatest joy was being a husband, father, and grandfather. Nothing was more important to him.

Jim will be honored for his military service at Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, Fla., on Jan. 9, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. A celebration of life will follow at 4:30 p.m. at Eisenhower Recreation Center. In lieu of flowers, a donation to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research would be appreciated.

(Freeman — Dec. 21, 2018)

MADISON

Ralph Mason North IV

July 9, 1955 — Dec. 15, 2018

Ralph Mason North IV passed away unexpectedly on Dec. 15, 2018 in Madison. Mason was born July 9, 1955 in Montclair, N.J. He was raised in Waukesha and lived in Madison for many years

He is survived by his sisters, Meg (David) Schnabl and Lauren Montclair; his longtime life partner, Donna Storley; nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews as well as other relatives and very good friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ralph M. North III and Helen A. North.

Mason graduated from the University of Oshkosh with a degree in philosophy and retired after a long career with the University of Wisconsin System. Mason loved fishing, gardening, photography, reading, antique collecting and all things Grateful Dead. Services and burial will be private.

(Freeman — Dec. 21, 2018)

WINNECONNE

James M. Olson

Feb. 22, 1934 — Dec. 1, 2018

James M. Olson, age 84, of Winneconne, died on Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018, surrounded by his family. He was reunited with his beloved wife, Joyce Olson, of 64 years, who preceded him in death on August 6, 2018, to



continue their blessed union for "all of eternity."

He was born to William and Vera (Rose) Olson on Feb. 22, 1934.

"Jimmy" was preceded in death by his three brothers, Wayne, Robert and Stanley, and sister-in-law Mary Semrow. His twin sister, Janice McGuire, was with him the day before he passed away to say her goodbyes.

Jim and Joyce were married on March 27, 1954 in Waukesha. Through the years, Jim worked in grocery stores, the Stop & Shop (downtown Waukesha), was a produce manager at Gasos on Racine Avenue and then retired from Roundy's warehouse in Wauwatosa in 1999. At that time they moved to their "dream home" in Winneconne, on Lake Poygan.

Jim loved the out-of-doors, from camping, boating, waterskiing, hunting, fishing, you name it, but mostly he loved his family and friends and being grandpa. Everybody was welcome at their home on "the lake," and they established many lifelong friendships. He is greatly missed by all, but not half as much as he missed "his Joyce."

They were blessed with three wonderful children: Debora Olson (Greg Radtke), John (Jackie) Olson and Penny (Robert Gonzales; grandchildren, Dana (Adam) Gerber, Chelsey Jungbluth, Eliot Jungbluth (Mel), Jacob (Cynthia) Olson, John Olson Jr., Corey Gonzales, Gina (Shannon) Stangel and Lucas Gonzales. He also had nine great-grandchildren whom he adored and all were properly taught to fish (with a fish bulletin board to prove it). They were also taught lawn maintenance with many photos on Grandpa's lap on the riding mower. All were taught young to swim in their pool in Waukesha, and later to water ski and tube on the lake. Shining deer is another fond memory with him; 35 is the record.

Jim is also survived by his beloved mother-in-law, Clara Miller (who is 97 years young), and his brothers-in-law, Alfred (Gloria) Semrow, Robert (Nadeane) Semrow, Raymond Semrow and Richard Willgrubs. He is further survived by many nieces, nephews, other friends and relatives. He was also like a father to his niece Brenda Semrow as she was growing up. He loved you all.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, Dec. 29, 2018, at Church and Chapel Funeral Home, 380 Bluemound Road, Waukesha (on the corner of highways J and JJ, four blocks south of I-94), from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m., with a memorial service at 5:00 p.m.

To receive this obit/directions, text 1826738 to 414-301-6422. Church and Chapel Rudolph-Larsen Bros., is serving the family. For more information, visit www.churchandchapel.com.

(Freeman — Dec. 21, 2018)

POLICE BLOTTER

Waukesha Police Department

WEDNESDAY

10:01 a.m. — The 300 block of Darlene Drive was shut down for roughly 30 minutes after a woman at a residence on the street cut herself. A man who was also at the home called police, fearing for himself and his 4-year-old. The man was able to safely get out of the residence with the child, and the woman was taken into custody and transferred to ProHealth Waukesha Memorial Hospital.



10:44 a.m. — A wallet fell out of a woman's purse in the parking lot of Woodman's, 1600 E. Main St., and another female customer picked it up and kept it. The store said the theft is on video.

1:44 p.m. — A subject inside Anytime Fitness was acting strange, and giving a 1,000-yard-stare to staff and police officers who later responded. He was removed, and has been banned from the building for scaring customers and staff.

2 p.m. — A caller in the 700 block of Arcadian Avenue claimed that someone has siphoned gas out of his 1999 Jeep Cherokee at least five times over the past week. He said he had been leaving the car with a full tank, and each morning his gas light comes on. He waived a report, and instead said he wants to put a surveillance camera up to see if he can catch the suspected thief in the act.

3:06 p.m. — A semi-tractor trailer knocked down several power lines in the 1500 block of Jefferson Avenue and fled the scene. The incident knocked out power to the neighborhood. A second caller contacted dispatchers stating that the driver was headed to nearby Gale Foods.

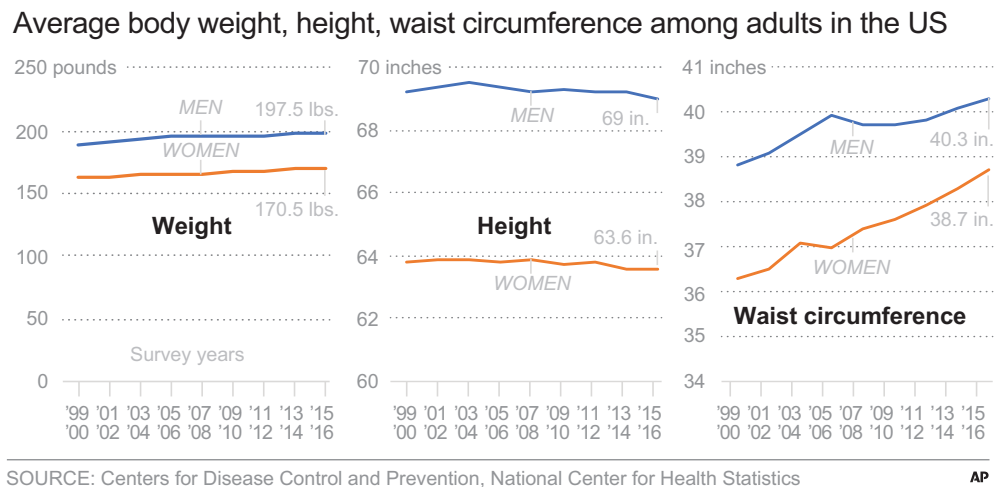
3:54 p.m. — A caller at an apartment complex in the 1000 block of Ryan Street said he came home to find his door kicked in and a safe taken.

5 p.m. — Police responded to the intersection of Brad Street and Grandview Boulevard for a two-vehicle crash involving a motorcycle and sedan. Dispatch notes indicate a driver was bleeding from the face, but did not say if it was the motorcyclist or the driver of the sedan. Both drivers appear to be have been transported by ambulance to a hospital. One was arrested for drunken driving.

7:27 p.m. — Police were called to a Land Rover, Jaguar and Volvo dealership at 1901 E. Moreland Blvd., to respond to an employee who said someone was trying to buy a vehicle with a fake ID showing the name of a person who died on Dec. 7, but had the subject's face. The subject was arrested on the scene.

CLARIFICATION

A Thursday story about new Starbucks coffee shops slated for the city of Waukesha gave imprecise information about a Starbucks that could be headed to Silvernail Road and Grandview Boulevard. The coffee giant has not yet confirmed that it will be opening a location at the intersection, but it has been talking about the possibility with city planning staff. The Freeman received incorrect information about the status of the project from the city.



SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics

AP

U.S. adults aren't getting taller, but still putting on pounds

NEW YORK (AP) — You don't need to hang the mistletoe higher but you might want to skip the holiday cookies.

A new report released this week shows U.S. adults aren't getting any taller but they are still getting fatter.

The average U.S. adult is overweight and just a few pounds from obese, thanks to average weight increases in all groups — but particularly whites and Hispanics.

Overall, the average height for men actually fell very slightly over the past decade. There was no change for women.

One factor may be the shift in the country's population. There's a growing number of Mexican-Americans, and that group tends to be a little shorter, said one of the report's authors, Cynthia Ogden of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The findings come from a 2015-16 health survey that measures height and weight. More than 5,000 U.S. adults took part.

CDC records date back to the early 1960s, when the average man was a little over 5 feet, 8 inches tall and weighed 166 pounds. Now, men are almost 1 inch taller and more than 30 pounds heavier. But today's average

height of 5 feet, 9 inches is about a tenth of an inch shorter than about a decade ago.

The average woman in the early 1960s was 5 feet, 3 inches and 140 pounds. Now, women are a half-inch taller and about 30 pounds heavier, on average. The average height is about the same as it was a decade earlier: 5 feet, 4 inches.

Other survey findings:

■ In the last decade, the average weight of men rose about 2 pounds, to 198. For women, it rose 6 pounds, to nearly 171.

■ Men have 40-inch waistlines, on average. Women's waistlines are a little under 39 inches.

■ The average height of black men and white men has been holding about steady, at a little under 5 feet 10.

■ Mexican-American and Asian-American men are roughly 3 inches shorter than whites and blacks, on average. There was a similar height gap in women.

In 2016, about 18 percent of the nation's population was Hispanic, up from about 13 percent in 2000, according to U.S. Census figures. Mexican-Americans account for nearly two-thirds of the Hispanic population.

U.S. urges doctors to write more prescriptions for overdose antidote

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government told doctors this week to consider prescribing medications that reverse overdoses to many more patients who take opioid painkillers in a move that could add more than \$1 billion in health care costs.

Assistant Secretary for Health Brett Giroir, a doctor appointed by President Donald Trump, announced the guidance, saying it's important for doctors to discuss overdose dangers with patients. Prescribing naloxone such as Narcan along with opioids forces a conversation that will lead to "a more informed decision by the patient," he said.

The action comes after a close vote on Tuesday from a Food and Drug Administration expert panel endorsing the idea of rewriting opioid drug labels to include a naloxone recommendation for many or all patients. An FDA document said such a move could add

more than \$1 billion in health care costs.

"Even at a billion, it would be an investment that is well worth it," Giroir said.

More than 47,600 Americans died of opioid overdoses last year, a toll that has been rising for two decades. The street drug fentanyl is the top killer today, but prescription painkillers are still a problem, contributing to nearly 15,000 overdose deaths last year.

Naloxone comes in a nasal spray, an injection and an automatic injector. The Narcan nasal spray costs about \$125 for a two-dose kit, although government programs can get it for less. The automatic injector can cost as much as \$4,000 per kit, although its maker recently authorized a cheaper generic version.

Critics said prescribing the antidote to pain patients does not address the growing share of fatal overdoses caused by illicit opioids, and could cause

shortages for programs that hand out the kits to street drug users.

It "will have the unintended consequence of derailing efforts to provide naloxone to the very effective community programs we know are successful in saving lives," said Dr. Raeford E. Brown Jr., who heads an expert panel advising the FDA.

The new guidance tells doctors to consider prescribing the antidote to patients on high doses of opioids, heavy drinkers, people with sleep apnea and other breathing problems, people taking benzodiazepines such as Xanax and people with addiction or mental health problems.

In April, U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams issued the office's first national public health advisory in 13 years, calling on more Americans to start carrying naloxone and urging more federal money to be dedicated to broadening access.

Water

From Page 1A

In the meantime, the utility will be shutting well down Well #10 on Jan. 2, so that it can install the lower horsepower well, a press release states.

The work is expected to be completed by the end of January and is not expected to affect customer water service or quality. The temporary pump is expected to deliver half of the well's regular capacity, but other wells will be able to be utilized to cover any additional capacity needed, the release states. "I am completely confi-

dent that the utility will still meet the water needs and water quality for the community," Duchniak states in the release.

Utility: Lake water needed

Duchniak used the failure of the pump at Well #10, and a recent pump failure at Well #8, as examples of why the new Great Lakes water supply is critical.

The utility has six active wells that can meet temporary standards for radium, the release states, but four

others that are not regularly used due to radium problems.

"Our staff is working diligently to meet the needs of the city. But, we have said for years — and regulators from 10 states and provinces have agreed — that our current groundwater system is not reliable or sustainable for the long term. The switch to Lake Michigan water will ensure we have safe and reliable drinking water for generations to come," Duchniak states in the release.



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Homeless

From Page 1A

"That's where the real gap is," she said. "What we don't have are overflow spaces for women and women with children. That's what the priority will be for the fire station this year. In the future we will decide what the best use of the space is, and what populations it can hold."

More hotel vouchers

As it works on its overflow shelter plan, the nonprofit has increased the money it allocates for hotel vouchers. So far this season it has set aside \$11,025 for vouchers. Last year it allocated \$7,447.

It has also made it easier for police to directly refer homeless subjects to the voucher program, so those in need can get into a hotel

faster.

One other development the HAC recently learned of is that the Salvation Army is no longer barring people from its emergency overnight shelter based on alcohol consumption alone. The shelter, which only serves men, has about 46 permanent beds, but is able to offer another five spots each night for drop-in or emergency stays.

Chronic homelessness up

According to a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development report released this week, Wisconsin reportedly saw the number of people experiencing homelessness in the state drop by 2.4 percent between January 2017 and January 2018. The decrease, which is based on annual homeless counts referred to as "Point in Time" (PIT) counts that

take place across the state, also seems to be born out by Waukesha County figures. According to HAC data, the number of homeless individuals in the county dropped from 171 to 165 between January 2017 and January 2018.

A deeper look at the report, however, reveals that while the overall homeless population in the state decreased slightly, the number of chronically homeless individuals increased by roughly 23 percent.

The HAC was unable to provide data on Thursday showing the number of chronically homeless individuals in the county in January 2017 or January 2018, but did say that the number of households with a chronically homeless individual went from 28 to 31 between Dec. 20, 2017 and Dec. 20, 2018.