



BARBARA EASH COLUMN

Judging antiques
at a county fair ▶ 8A

Local GOP
lawmakers on
unfilled Milwaukee
police jobs ▶ 7A



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GROWING MINDS



Cara Spoto/Freeman Staff

WAUKESHA — Noah Burke, 12, loosens the dirt on a small succulent at the Waukesha Public Library, while friend and fellow Les Paul Middle School student Max Camarillo, 12, looks on. The seventh-graders were among about a dozen students that took part in a terrarium building activity hosted by the library, 321 Wisconsin Ave., on Tuesday afternoon.

MENOMONEE FALLS

2020 proposed budget
includes money for
fire chief, new engine

Also includes 30 new full-time positions

By Ashley Haynes
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MENOMONEE FALLS — The Menomonee Falls Fire Department has spoken and village officials are listening. Following Menomonee Falls Professional Firefighters Local 3879 President Kevin Myers saying an ongoing staffing shortage within the Falls Fire Department had led to a “frightening” situation this May, village officials have taken the first step towards crafting a 2020 proposed budget that includes not only funding for 30 new full-time firefighters over the next four years, but the addition of a fire department chief and the purchase of a new aerial platform fire truck.

“At a high level, fundamental-

ly, we all agreed and the budget is a very reasonable budget. I would say as a village board, we were unanimous in the 2020 plan,” said Village President David Glasgow.

Adding the new full-time firefighter positions will take place from 2020-2023; six positions will be added in the first year, followed by nine in the second year, nine in the third year and six in the final year. The new aerial platform fire truck will cost the village approximately \$1.4 million and is scheduled to be purchased in 2020 pending Village Board approval of the budget.

The length of the hiring process for the new positions is hard to predict, Glasgow explained.

See FALLS, PAGE 8A

Business alliance backs
pumping station proposal

Sends letter to New Berlin, urging cooperation



Courtesy of Waukesha Water Utility

A new rendering shows the latest design for a pumping station and twin reservoir tanks planned for the southeastern edge of Minooka Park. The Waukesha Water Utility has submitted new plans for the project calling for the height of the reservoir tanks to be lowered by 10 feet at an estimated cost of \$2 million to \$5 million.

By Cara Spoto
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NEW BERLIN — As Waukesha Water Utility officials prepare for a public hearing on their request to construct a pumping station and two nine-gallon reservoir tanks at the southeastern edge of Minooka Park, the Waukesha County Business Alliance is urg-

ing New Berlin city officials to show regional cooperation by supporting the project.

The letter, sent to the city late last month, comes as residents near the proposed site — an 8.57-acre parcel near the corner of Swartz Road and Racine Avenue — have expressed vocal opposition to the development.

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SOUND
OFF

What do
you think?
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Evers declares Columbus Day
is Indigenous Peoples’ Day

Students at Indian
Community School
in Franklin fought
for day

By Kent Wainscott
Courtesy of WISN 12 News

FRANKLIN — Columbus Day is now officially Indigenous Peoples’ Day in Wisconsin, but not everyone is celebrating.

The governor signed an executive order marking Indigenous Peoples’ Day the second Monday in October, but that order is already drawing some criticism.

Students at the Indian Community School in Franklin have fought for three years to have Wisconsin recognize Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

On Tuesday, in front of those students, Gov. Tony Evers made it happen with an executive order.

“Declaring the second Monday in October to be Indigenous Peoples’ Day in Wisconsin,” Evers said.

The students took up the cause, they said, after learning in school about the first people in America. “Not too long into the subject, we found out that it wasn’t Columbus. It was our ancestors,” said Indian Community School seventh-grader Annabelle Jaworski.

Having Indigenous Peoples’ Day coincide with Columbus Day is important to the tribal nations, but it is not setting well with everyone.



Associated Press

In this Sept. 24 file photo, Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers speaks with reporters at an event in Madison.

“I think it’s political correctness run amok,” Milwaukee Alderman Bob Donovan said.

Donovan said he thinks the two days should be observed separately.

“I am not at all opposed to recognizing Native Americans, indigenous peoples to the Americas. No problem whatsoever. But I do have a problem when it’s done at the expense of Christopher Columbus and Italians,” Donovan said.

“I really think it is about clarification. There’s a misconception in the founding of the United States that we were discovered. And clearly there were people here that are now called Native Americans,” Oneida Nation Chairman Tehassi Hill said.

SOUND OFF

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“Recognizing them does no disservice to anyone else, it’s just long overdue,” Evers said.

The students went to Madison a couple of years ago to try get a law passed declaring Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

They were not successful but kept pushing.

The governor said he would have preferred to see legislation passed but was happy to sign the executive order to make it happen.

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WEATHER



Tomorrow:
Mostly cloudy
High 65 / Low 60

See complete forecast on Page 8A

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