

# Fermenting Cellars raises money for Edgerton Community Outreach

By Jack Miller  
Sports Editor

Over \$550 was raised for Edgerton Community Outreach at a fundraising event held by Fermenting Cellars Winery in Janesville.

Fermenting Cellars Winery, which started as a hobby for Don Eckert, tries to fundraise each year. This year, Eckert and the Fermenting Cellars chose the Edgerton Community Outreach.

Attendees of the event put money in a donation jar, while wine tasting and listening to live music from the band Duct Tape. The band played free of charge, donating their proceeds to Outreach.

Members of the band include Tom Edwards, Greg and Paul McDonald, Marvin Pospeschit and Steve Weber.

The money from the event will go toward the Outreach food pantry.

**Right, top:** Sarah Williams (left), director of the Edgerton Outreach, and Mary Eckert, one of the owners of Fermenting Cellars Winery. **Bottom:** Light shines through a bottle of wine arranged with flowers at the recent fundraiser held at Fermenting Cellars Winery. **Photos by Nathan Becker**



## Child Sex Offender released to Edgerton area

William S. Pitera II, age 37, relocated to the Edgerton area on Aug. 20.

His address will be 1613 East Road 3, in Newville. Pitera's previous address was 2011 Airport Road, Watertown, Wis.

Pitera is a white male, 5'7" tall, about 203 pounds, and has

blond or strawberry colored hair.

Pitera was convicted of First Degree Sexual Assault of a Child under 13 years of age and Exposing Child to Harmful Materials on May 12, 2009. Pitera pled guilty to both charges.

Pitera is not allowed to par-

ticipate in any unapproved community activities without prior approval of the DCC Supervising Agent. He is to have no contact with minors; no contact with the victims, and must comply with all standard sex offender rules, including GPS monitoring.

## DUNKIRK REFERENDUM

The RPP committee also recommended a fiscal mill rate not-to-exceed one dollar to fund the program.

If the board decided to approve the recommendation, and if the Oct. 23 referendum election proves successful, then the board and electors could hold a special town meeting on Nov. 1.

Should that as resident-approved also be successful, with the non-binding resolution demonstrating the will of the electorate, then the mill rate—at whatever rate is settled on short of or dead-on one dollar—can then after be figured into the final budget proposal that comes up for a vote on Nov. 19, 2018.

Those are a lot of "ifs" that have to be settled under imminent deadlines.

West has been diligently working on the PDR proposal for over two years, and indicated at Monday evening's meeting that she intends to step-down from the committee chairship in November. She was hoping to have the PDR referendum a finalized issue by

then.

To motivate the supervisors to act favorably on the RPP committee's recommendation, West cited two things. The first was the 26 percent return on the PDR Survey sent to 850 residents in the township, which she characterized as "a really good return rate for a survey."

Of those returned, West said 70 percent were in favor of going ahead with the referendum; 13 percent were against; and 16 percent said they were not sure.

The second thing to bolster board confidence and alacrity was West's report on a conversation with the town's PDR consultant, Renee Lauber of the Dane County Towns Association. In a discussion Lauber had with Dane County officials, they are currently considering proposing some form of a Conservation Easement program for the entire county, and are thinking about using Dunkirk as its "pilot program."

The nice part about the county's possible backing is their proposal to provide some

sort of matching funds to turn Dunkirk's pilot program into a conservation easement reality, helping ease mill rate anxiety. Additionally, that could serve as very welcomed news, now that funds from state sources have dried-up.

However, Dunkirk's supervisors, who decidedly move at a rural pace, were disinclined to have to clear all the imminent hurdles, including holding the special public hearing.

Supervisor Ted Olson observed, "About 80 percent of people didn't respond to the survey. That's a lot of taxpayers.

Then he summed it all up, "I don't feel the urgency to do this in October or November."

Norman Monsen, Dunkirk's Chair, agreed. Supervisor Eric Quam was also aboard the very same veto vessel.

Though the proposed referendum is non-binding and, if passed, would be an advisory measure (only) that the board would later consider as it moved forward on the PDR program, the consensus of the



## Damage from downed tree

About 2 a.m. on Aug. 27, neighborhood residents along Lake Ripley heard a thunderous cracking sound at the corner of Lake Ripley Drive and Linda Lane as a gigantic oak tree was torn by its ancient roots from ground saturated by torrents of rain and upon which it came pounding down amidst gale-force winds. Electric repair crews were on the scene that early morning to repair damage to electric lines and connectors (right), which had left certain sectors affected by the downed lines without power for hours. The road, as well, needed clearing. Final repairs and tree removal are pending.

Photo by Tristan McGough



## Widespread power outage Friday

By Jack Miller  
Sports Editor

There was a power outage that impacted several thousand Edgerton citizens early Friday morning.

The outage began at 4:15 a.m. Friday and lasted approximately until 6:30 a.m. About 3,500 Alliant Energy customers in Edgerton were affected by the outage.

The outage was due to an equipment failure at the Alliant Energy substation in Edgerton. The insulator at the substation shut off, which was the root cause of the outages.



The Alliant Energy substation in Edgerton had an equipment failure that caused 3,500 residents to lose power. Photo by Jack Miller

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board on Monday was not to push this forward at this time, but wait for a time when it would not bump heads with all the candidates and competing issues, and perhaps other referenda, that this coming fall's election will entail.

Perhaps January or even February 2019 would bode better for the rural preservation referendum, they concluded, especially when you factored in the succeeding 2019 Annual Meeting, should the Dunkirk electorate need to assemble at the town hall for direct consultation and action.

That kind of seasonal scheduling—the natural pace of rural life according to Wisconsin's shifting seasons—made perfect sense to the board, and they decided to shoot for a "Feb. 19 or so" 2019 date to hold the non-binding referendum.

Nevertheless, that action, of course, leaves open the question of whether West will continue on or pass the baton of the RPP committee chairship to the next willing, informed and motivated Dunkirkian.



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