

# EDGERTON REPORTER

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## Student found after search

By Reporter staff

A male student ran from the Edgerton Middle School campus around 2:45 p.m. Friday afternoon, Nov. 1, prompting a coordinated and ultimately successful search for the student by law enforcement and fire district personnel.

The boy was located shortly after 5 p.m., reunited with his parents, and then transported to a local hospital. The student was reportedly cold but had suffered no major injuries. Edgerton's high temperature Friday was 40 degrees, according to The Weather Channel's online records.

Authorities were called by the school district after the student left the grounds of the middle school, located at 300 Elm High Dr., shortly before the end of the school day.

"The student ran into the wooded marshy area across the street from the school," reads a statement by Edgerton Police Chief Robert Kowalski to the Edgerton Reporter.

Edgerton Police were first to the scene.

"An immediate search of the area proved negative results and it was decided to call for assistance in locating the student due to the terrain and weather conditions," Kowalski stated.

At that point, the incident became an "emergency situa-

tion" and personnel from the Rock County Sheriff's Department, Edgerton Fire Protection District and other agencies were called to the scene.

The sheriff's department deployed drones and several K9 units were utilized. The fire district provided manpower and equipment, including a ladder truck which allowed a bird's-eye view of the scene.

"The citizens of Edgerton also came out offering assistance any way they could," Kowalski said.

The student was ultimately located by a conservation officer along with a K9 unit from the McFarland Police Department.

"The student was reunited with his parents and taken to the hospital as a precaution," Kowalski said.

Edgerton Schools Superintendent Dennis Pauli told the Janesville Gazette the district could not release the student's age nor why the student may have left the school.

Kowalski praised everyone involved in the search.

"This was a collaborative effort by everyone involved, starting with the great relationship between the Edgerton Police Department and the Edgerton School District as well as a fantastic working partnership with our law enforcement partners.

"Good job done by all."



## Spooky snowfall

The strangest sights to be found last week in the Edgerton area were not costumed trick-or-treaters or spooky Halloween decorations. Instead, winter made a surprising early appearance. On Halloween, 5-6 inches of snow fell, forcing some children, sadly, to skip the trick-or-treating. Some residents, however, embraced the unreasonable, unseasonable weather. Bruce Schroeder, Fairway Circle, Edgerton, informed the Reporter that "Frosty the Witch" had visited his house (*below left/submitted photo*). Meanwhile, Darlene Wietersen, Blaine Street, Edgerton, set up a "Merry Halloween" display (*below right/submitted photo*). In Cambridge, shivering in the unexpected, pre-seasonal snow on Halloween (note the snow-capped pumpkin in the background), a skeletal group waited for bundled trick-or-treaters who were willing to brave the weather (*above/photo by Tristan McGough*).



## Edgerton City Council

## Bids for removal of compost pile sought

By Dean Landers  
Special to the Reporter

Edgerton City Council requested bids for removal of the compost pile at 205 South Main Street at the council meeting Monday night.

The city-owned compost site is used by Edgerton residents for dumping their grass, leaves and related yard waste. Recently the compost pile has grown to a large size requiring removal by outside contractors who bid on the work.

"The compost pile is for Edgerton residents only, not for people living outside of city boundaries," said Cindy Heggglund, Edgerton Clerk-Treasurer.

"The city-owned train depot has a new tenant who will sub-lease the depot from the city," continued Heggglund. "The name of the new tenant is not yet available."

"The Edgerton Chamber of Commerce has been in the process of purchasing the depot from the city for many years," Heggglund said.

Cedar Corporation has been selected by the city to administrate the recently approved CDBG-PF state block grant for rebuilding West Rollin Street with new pavement, sewer, storm sewer and water; the work to take place in 2020.

CDBG-PF refers to Community Development Block Grant for Public Facilities.

Roscoe Development Company was approved by the city for extraterritorial land division of two parcels of land in Fulton at East Mallwood Drive, Section 12 and Sunby, North Blackhawk Drive, Section 16.

## Fatal farm accident

Submitted by  
Sergeant Troy Egger  
Rock County Sheriff's Dept.

On Nov. 5, 2019, at 1:13 a.m., personnel from the Rock County Sheriff's Office, Wisconsin State Patrol, Edgerton Fire Dept. and Mercy Health System MD-1 were dispatched to a farm field in the 7500 block of N. Fox Rd. for the report of a male that had been run

over by a large piece of farm equipment.

Upon arrival, deputies found the victim, a 24-year-old male from Belvidere, Ill., unconscious and not breathing. Life saving measures were attempted by deputies and medical personnel, but the male was pronounced deceased at the scene by MD-1.

See **FATAL ACCIDENT**, 3

## High school to open aquaponics greenhouse to public

By Amy Trees  
Special to the Reporter

Tilapia stare out of the windows of six large, black fish tanks while students busy themselves with various tasks. Edgerton High School began operating the new aquaponics greenhouse last April and has plans to open it to the general public on Saturdays within the next few months. A specific date is yet to be determined. Free tours will be offered and visitors will have the opportunity to purchase organic lettuce

grown by students. The program is already selling lettuce to Taher Food Service, Fulton Store and making donations to Edgerton Community Outreach's food pantry. The program operates by USDA standards and is in the process of getting certified.

The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture defines aquaponics as, "A combination of fish and plant production using aquaculture and hydroponics systems." Fish are raised in a controlled environment where bacteria convert fish waste into fertil-

izer. Plants filter the water by absorbing the fertilizer and the cleansed water is recirculated through the system and returned to the fish tanks.

Tony DeWar, an Edgerton High School biology teacher, helped start the aquaponics program about two years ago with the construction of the greenhouse. It was completed last April by United Greenhouse Systems. DeWar teaches Principles of Aquaponics to juniors and seniors who work in the greenhouse and monitor the health, habitat, nutrition and water quality of the plants and fish by keeping detailed records. Basic plumbing and engineering principles are also taught. DeWar says he has wanted to do an aquaponics program for a long time and that they are now past the experimental phase and are currently working on marketing.

The fish are bought from a supplier and take six months to grow. They arrive about two inches in length and are all the same gender. DeWar explains that they don't want to deal with the additional issues that comes with breeding. "We just want them to eat and grow," he says. Each 110 gallon tank holds a different age group of

fish. After six months, the fish are harvested and sold.

Casey Tarkenton is an Edgerton High School senior who is taking the aquaponics class as a science credit. He says the class is interesting because when people think of agriculture they think of growing plants in soil, not in water. It takes 30 days to grow leaf lettuce in an aquaponics environment and growing time is cut by 33 percent when grown in water instead of soil. "The fish is everyone's favorite," says Tarkenton who explains that STEM students had visited the greenhouse earlier in the fall. "The plants are interesting to look at for a little while," he added, "But it's the fish people really like."

Sheila Fox, K-5 STEM

teacher for Community Elementary School, had taken her third and fourth grade students to the aquaponics classroom for a one-hour class. DeWar gave a guided tour and shared the process of the aquaponics set-up. "The third and fourth grade students loved it!" said Fox in an email. The students' assignment was to create their own aquaponics systems. Fox described some of the students work as amazing. "We talked about different types of fish that could be used and also the variety of crops that may be grown."

For more information about touring the aquaponics greenhouse or purchasing lettuce and fish, contact Tony DeWar at 608-561-6171 or tony.dewar@edgerton.k12.wi.us.



It takes 30 days to grow leaf lettuce in the aquaponics greenhouse. Edgerton High School plans to open the greenhouse to the general public on Saturdays within the next few months.

Photo submitted by Tony DeWar

### SALUTE TO VETERANS

*Honoring All Who Served*

IN RECOGNITION OF VETERANS DAY - PAGES 4-5

### Gas Watch

Nat. Average.....	\$2.610
WI Average.....	\$2.390
WI lowest - Kenosha/Pleasant Springs/Hartford.....	\$2.180
Janesville.....	\$2.250
Milton.....	\$2.260
Newville.....	\$2.260
Edgerton .....	\$2.290
Evansville.....	\$2.350
Fort Atkinson.....	\$2.390
Stoughton.....	\$2.300
Cambridge.....	\$2.360
Madison.....	\$2.210
Milwaukee.....	\$2.170

Latest prices reported for one gallon of unleaded gasoline according to local observations and GasBuddy.com as of 5:00 p.m., Monday, November 4, 2019. Prices listed are the lowest in each city, which may be one or more stations

### Contact Us

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